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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2ND, 2014

'End the post office saga'
Page 4

In Business Update
SEE OUR FEATURE ON PAGES 18-19

Ystradowen nurse runs for Velindre
Page 5

Cowbridge fitness guru is keeping up the good work

RIGHT: Aranka Pratt (centre) with her daughters Gabriella (right) and Barbara.

REPORT by PHILIP IRWIN

GEM readers, particularly those in the Cowbridge area, may remember when we reported on the retirement of Aranka Pratt, an instructor at Cowbridge Leisure Centre for 16 years.

At the time, a number of GEM readers paid fulsome tribute to Aranka, saying how she had helped and inspired them to fight off old age by getting involved in exercise programmes.

Those readers will be pleased to know that 66-year-old Aranka, who lives in Barry, is spending her retirement practicing what she preaches – and recently completed a marathon walk across Spain!

She told The GEM: "Along with my two youngest daughters, I walked the St Jacob's pilgrim trail from St Jean Pied-de-Port to Santiago de Compostela.

"It was about 800 kilometres and we each had backpacks weighing 15 kilos. We spent the night in albergues, state-sponsored hostels, sharing a dormitory with 15–20 people.

"The scenery was incredibly beautiful and varied, ranging from lush green mountains to desert-like plains. Many interesting and funny people from all over the world crossed our path.

"All in all, it was a fantastic experience and I would recommend it to everyone."

Aranka's weekly routine since her retirement put her in good shape for the 800km walk. A typical week includes swimming, cycling, yoga and visits to the gym.

She added: "Keep active and enjoy life! retirement can be wonderful.

"Best wishes to all my friends and colleagues in Cowbridge."

TREOES RESIDENTS CAN QUESTION SOLAR FARM DEVELOPERS

RESIDENTS in the Treoes area will get the chance to quiz the people behind an application for the proposed solar farm on Court Farm.

The meeting will take place at Treoes Village Hall at 7pm on Thursday, October 9.

Matthew Hard of CDN Planning told The GEM: "There will be a short presentation about the proposed development and an opportunity for the public to ask questions."

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

FINANCIAL LEGACY OF THE OLD GRAMMAR

£3million still held in trust for school

THE annual accounts of the Cowbridge Comprehensive School Trust show that it has assets of more than £3 million.

The cash has built up after land and buildings formerly used for Cowbridge Grammar School – and then the lower school comprehensive site – were sold off.

Although Vale Councils of various political hues would have liked to have the option of using that cash to offset the cost of the new school on Aberthin Road, the legalities of the trust that bequeathed the old school to the town has meant that it must remain in trust in Cowbridge.

Investment income generated by the Trust – a sum of £51,024 – was paid over to the Sir Thomas Mansel Franklen Trust.

That trust is managed by the governors of Cowbridge Comprehensive School, and the money must be spent on "the provision of special benefits for the secondary school, not normally provided by the local authority and/or in promoting the education, social, and physical training of current or former pupils of the school, in need of financial assistance".

The net value of the fund at the beginning of the year was £3,047,138 and by the end of the year it was £3,128,480, a net increase of £81,342.

The auditors said that the net increase was attributable to higher stock market valuations of investments and a gain on the disposal of the lower school site (both totalling £98,842) offset by a reduction in the valuation of land (£17,500).

The land still owned by the Cowbridge Comprehensive School Trust is the old school field, adjacent to Cowbridge livestock market.

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LETTERS AND E-MAILS MUST INCLUDE FULL ADDRESS AND A CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBER

IMPORTANT: We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. An email address alone is not sufficient! We will (*in certain circumstances*) protect a writer's identity, if requested.

'Airport needs more airlines'

I NOTED the letter in The GEM from the Managing Director of Cardiff Airport who mentions disruption to passengers during the Nato Summit – what passengers?

As usual this year, I had to fly from Bristol to get a seat to Corfu with Easy Jet.

I live just 10 minutes from Cardiff Airport. Mrs Barber, it's more access to airlines we need – not Nato. Please cut your landing fees.

Mike Clemett, Barry.

'Thank you to Airport staff'

AS a disabled passenger, I would like to thank the staff of Cardiff Airport for their great assistance; and also for the help and advice I received concerning my missing luggage.

Guy Owen, Llanblethian.

Dismay over the future of The Rest

I AM writing to express my dismay at reading the notice on the gates of the old hotel in Southerndown that became a home for the blind, with the wonderful towers – that said the council were applying for demolition.

I went on the Vale Council website and discovered the decision had been made – permission was not needed. The intention is to demolish it completely.

My parents moved to Southerndown when I was 19 years old – 40 years ago – I stayed in Birmingham.

My parents have been very active participants in local life – my mom has a memorial plaque in the castle gardens.

My family and I have stayed over many years with my parents and love the village. We used to sneak into the castle gardens before they were open to the public.

I find the history of the village magical and just cannot believe that the council want to just knock the building down, with no effort to find a developer that could turn it into very desirable flats.

Two other developments have been successful – Brig-y-Don and Little West – proving that flats are in demand: holiday flats, retirement flats etc.

There is a council document – a guide – to the 'gems' of the area – on the internet, yet this 'gem' is to be razed to the ground.

Shame on the council.

Mrs Denise Smith, Halesowen, West Midlands.

'Bonfire of the combustibles'

OUR vital and vulnerable atmosphere suffers a big 'downer' every autumn when innumerable gardeners collect their combustible rubbish and light bonfires.

One small fire contributes carbon dioxide and heat to an overloaded system, as well as millions of fine black particles of carbon, which help to darken white surfaces, hastening the melting of glaciers and icefields.

So, what about it, Earth-friendly Vale inhabitants!

Give up the bonfire, spare the air, and enjoy a smoke-free autumn.

Patrick Whelan, St Hilary.

'COMMUNITIES FACING A TIDE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS'

ALL parts of the Vale of Glamorgan are now facing a rapidly rising tide of planning applications by developers.

Inevitably, local community councils and campaign groups must have as their priority the key task of mobilising their own community to make effective planning objections to these applications.

However, there are wider issues which are emerging across the Vale, that have been reflected in The GEM in recent times.

There is the problem of disproportionate development due to the council's Deposit LDP: in the Vale as a whole, in parts of the Vale like the rural Vale, and in certain communities.

We have a council which is using planning loopholes to approve a series of premature planning applications for LDP sites in Vale communities before the LDP inspector can examine the responses from residents in these communities.

We have the prospect of excessive development facing many Vale villages if the council's proposal to scrap their settlement boundaries goes ahead.

We have a council whose leading councillors write to The GEM arguing that the Vale Council should be retained in imminent local government reorganisation, as it is responsive to Vale issues: yet the very same councillors ignore many GEM readers who are asking for a proper explanation as to why this council is adamantly opposed to the development of the Llandow Newydd site.

There are many residents and community councillors across the Vale who are very disturbed by the way in which the LDP process is unfolding. This is why this summer the Vale Villages Together network has been launched.

It has limited but necessary purposes: it aims to provide a link between different community groups and individuals across the Vale currently working in isolation; it seeks to provide and exchange information on planning issues in the Vale.

Finally, it wants to provide a platform for identifying key planning issues affecting Vale communities, discussing what needs to be done, and then acting on these.

As an example, take rural settlement boundaries. The network held an open forum last week on this issue. As a result, it has just written to all rural community councils submitting a case for them to consider asking the council not to scrap the settlement boundaries around Vale villages.

It is also writing to Vale political parties, AMs, and the local MP on the issue.

Clearly, there are other issues which need co-ordinated action through such a network. It is not intended to be confined to rural Vale issues. Its potential is demonstrated by the numerous contacts already received.

If anyone would like to contact us or join the network, we can be reached at valevillagestogether@gmail.com.

Paul Jeremy, Ystradowen (VVT network).

'Thank you all for your support'

ON Saturday, September 27, we held a 'Coffee and Cake for Macmillan' event at Margaret Alexander Community Centre in Alexandra Gardens, Barry.

Neither of us expected the numbers of people who turned up to support it and it was quite overwhelming to see just how generous people in the town are.

We raised over £620 in two hours, which is an incredible amount of money and will make a big difference to Macmillan Cancer nurses.

We couldn't have done it without the support of family, friends and local businesses and wanted to take the opportunity to publicly thank all who baked and donated cake, tea and coffee (far too many to mention by name).

We had a few cakes left over and took these over to Springbank and Bella Vista nursing homes for the residents to enjoy. Thanks again, everyone!

Rhian Lees and Elinor Hillman, Cardiff.

'Protect farm animals'

RSPCA ISSUES APPEAL

YOUR readers may be surprised to know that more than 900 million animals are farmed for food each year in the UK – that's about 56 times the number of pet dogs and cats in this country.

Many of these farm animals are kept in conditions which the RSPCA thinks are unacceptable. In fact, the RSPCA has been fighting for farm animals for 190 years. We were founded after witnessing cruelty to cattle at Smithfields meat market.

That is why this week is the RSPCA's Farm Animal Week (September 29 to October 5). We will be raising awareness of the cramped conditions in which millions of farm animals spend their lives.

But we can't do this alone! So please think animal welfare – especially now during Farm Animal Week. For more information on activities in your area, and ways you can support the RSPCA's farm animal week, please go to: *www.rspca.org.uk/getinvolved/fundraise/faw.*

Dr Julia Wrathall, *RSPCA head of farm animal welfare, Southwater, RH13 9RS.*

'Build a new town next to Wales' coveted postcode'

SO, Llantwit Major came second in a bid for the most desirable postcode to live in Wales, (The GEM, August 28).

Bravo, well deserved Llantwit! Surely a sensible plan now would be to build a model garden village/town on Llandow airfield (a brownfield site); using some of the less than productive (so we are told) land close by, to make the site large enough for regulations to be accommodated...

A fitting, attractive neighbour for Llantwit – a new town, on a rail line, with a station to facilitate travel to work, to network with Bridgend, Cardiff, and Swansea...

A town that could incorporate its needs: primary and junior school, community hall, stores, chemist and (luxury) Post Office...

A new place where all are newcomers and have the opportunity to make new friends and neighbourhoods.

A town that is not in the prohibitive price zone of Cowbridge, therefore with a better chance of fulfilling the lauded promise of 'affordable housing', thus allowing our young people a fairer chance of stepping on the property ladder.

Around the Vale, valuable farmland could still be our 'breathing space' and used for the necessary production of food.

With the burgeoning populations worldwide vying for comestibles, we need to produce more – to aim for more, not less self-sufficiency.

However, farming needs to provide a viable livelihood to save green fields.

Remember the winter of '82? Cowbridge was snowed in. However, for those could walk to it, Darren Farm supplied us with milk. Don't let us lose our valuable resources.

(Name and address supplied.)

Making better use of powers

I NOTE that Jane Hutt AM is looking forward to new powers being devolved to the Welsh Assembly.

I am looking forward to the day that they can deal with the ones they already have.

The waiting times, particularly for orthopaedics in the Welsh NHS, are scandalous.

Our schools are not doing anywhere nearly as well as they should be.

The Ambulance Service, which the Assembly has never been able to run efficiently, is in the middle of yet another reorganisation.

The time for new powers for the Assembly is when they can show that they can deal efficiently with those they already have.

M T Hopkins, Cowbridge.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL OCTOBER 9)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
02 Thur			12.37	8.1
03 Fri	01.15	7.9	14.04	7.9
04 Sat	02.52	7.8	15.31	8.3
05 Sun	04.12	8.5	16.39	9.0
06 Mon	05.11	9.2	17.36	9.7
07 Tues	05.58	9.8	18.24	10.3
08 Wed	06.49	10.3	19.11	10.6
09 Thur	07.32	10.4	19.54	10.7

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Schoolgirl Milly takes on 1,000 mile challenge

LEFT: Cowbridge student Milly Green.

COWBRIDGE Comprehensive sixth former, Milly Green's fundraising challenge got off a great start with a prize as first female junior competitor in the inaugural Barry Aqualthlon last Sunday – a race comprising of a 650m sea swim, followed by a 5km run at Whitmore Bay on Barry Island.

Through her school, Milly was selected as part of a group of students who will be helping with hands-on activities, as well as raise awareness of the Goedgedacht Trust trust in Cape Town, South Africa next July.

The charity provides assistance for rural children in need. Once there, the students will work with the charity in activities which aim to set up sustainable support for the affected children.

Milly has set herself the challenging target of running over 1,000 miles – the equivalent of travelling coast to coast in South Africa from Cape Town to Durban, in order to raise funds for participation in the school trip to work with and support the charity.

Over the next 10 months, Milly will be clocking up her miles with runs, walks, hikes and a few more swims to reach her target.

Anyone or any local businesses interested in sponsoring Milly on her challenge can email her at gogogreen27@hotmail.co.uk and she can explain the work and objectives of the charity and can provide updates on her progress.

Details on the work of the charity can be found at www.goedgedacht.org.

GG

COMMUNITY NEWS

Your local correspondent is
NANCY DAVIDGE
"Tynewydd", Llangan.
(01656) 860303
TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Llangan School

BETWEEN September 22 and 26, pupils and parents at Llangan School enjoyed a puzzle week, with puzzles from Cardiff-based Techniquest and the Happy Puzzle Company.

Llangan School hosted a maths challenge for 10 other primary schools in the Vale. The competition will run throughout the year with a different school hosting each time.

Harvest festival

THIS year's St Canna's harvest festival service was very well attended, with local parishioners and visitors from further afield. Needy people in the Bridgend area will benefit from the generosity of those who attended the service with gifts of food allocated to the Bridgend Foodbank.

Yoga classes

FROM Monday, October 6, Treoes village hall will be the venue for all standards of yoga classes, from 7.45pm to 9pm. The cost is £4 a session or £30 for 10 lessons. Remember to take your yoga mat.

Apple pressing at market

RESIDENTS are being invited to bring their garden apples along to the Farmers' Market on October 4 and October 18 and see them pressed into juice.

A spokesman said: "Join in some Apple Family Fun! Harvest Cowbridge – a local voluntary group - will be at the farmers' market demonstrating how to make juice from apples, plus offering apple family fun and games to celebrate the harvest season. Steady your hand for the longest peel competition, pin the maggot on the apple, have a go at apple bobbing, and get creative with some Glamorgan Apple Dressing!

"As a guide half a carrier bag (2kg) of apples (any kind suitable) will make one litre of juice. Some bruising/blemishes/damage is fine. If you would like to take the juice away bring a clean container - information about pasteurising and cider making will be available. Apples cannot be brought in from orchards or fields where animals have been grazing due to the risk of e-coli.

"The Harvest Cowbridge group have received funding from Creative Rural Communities to raise awareness of rural traditions and heritage relating to apples and orchards in the Vale. Other aims of the Harvest Cowbridge project are to map local apple trees, offer volunteer harvesting and redistribution to reduce food waste, and to educate about the planting and care of apple trees, and of the biodiversity that exists in the orchard environment.

"If you would like to be involved in the Harvest Cowbridge project, have apples to harvest, or can help with the apple pressings please come along to an information meeting on Wednesday, October 1 at 7pm in the Duke of Wellington, Cowbridge."

Find Harvest Cowbridge on Facebook, email info@hubcowbridge.com or call Debbie Leigh on 07890 407 670 for more information.

Special field rakes in a royal plaudit!

THE good weather brought out the crowds for the Hay Rake at Craig Penllyne Parish Field on Sunday, September 21.

Each year, a group of willing volunteers come together to remove cut vegetation from the field, a process that helps the field retain its SSSI status (Site of Special Scientific Interest) by encouraging the growth of rare plants and grassland.

A plaque was also unveiled to officially recognise the field as a 'Coronation Meadow', one of only a handful of fields in Wales.

This scheme, instigated by Prince Charles, aims to celebrate wildflower meadows, with one field being granted this status in each county of Britain.

Photos by Kerrie.

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MONTE CASSINO VETERANS HOLD REUNION IN THE VALE

ABOVE: The veterans, from left to right: Theo Davies (Swansea), Aubrey Evans (Neath), Jim Morgan (Llantwit Major), and Bob Clarke (Llantwit Major).

Jim having a chat with Prince Harry.

A group of Welsh World War Two veterans – all members of The Monte Cassino Society – held a reunion recently in Llantwit Major.

Jim Morgan, who lives in the town, said: "Our average age is 92 and we hold the get-together annually.

"All four of us are members of The Monte Cassino Society who served in various branches of the Army in Italy during the first six months of 1944."

The Battle of Monte Cassino was a series of four assaults by the Allies against the 'Winter Line' in Italy with the aim of making a breakthrough to Rome.

The capture of Monte Cassino came at a high price, with the Allies sustaining around 55,000 casualties.

The Monte Cassino Society comprises veterans and their relatives – the relatives, for understandable reasons, have taken on more of the organisation of the society as the years have passed by.

Earlier this year, Jim was among those in the society who made a journey back to Italy to remember those who never made it home. The party numbered 105 and included 14 veterans.

70th year

Jim explained: "In May, those who were able joined a party of veterans which travelled to Cassino to mark the 70th anniversary of the battles.

"The pilgrimage was organised by the society and was sponsored by the National Lottery.

"A moving service of commemoration was held in the beautiful cemetery overlooked by the monastery.

"This was attended by several thousand, including Prince Harry, who laid a wreath at the memorial.

"At an informal buffet lunch following the service the Prince insisted on meeting and talking to veterans individually. Everyone was impressed by his kindness and understanding."

Jim describes himself playfully as "ninety-one and a half" and says the National Lottery fund the trips once every five years, with some veterans looking forward optimistically to the next pilgrimage to Italy in 2019.

Public meeting over solar farm

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

The draft proposals at Court Farm involve the installation of around 10,000 solar panels on metal frames laid out in parallel rows. The solar farm is expected to have a generating capacity of around 2 MW.

A planning application is expected to be submitted in October. If successful, planning permission is likely to be granted for a 25-year period.

The developers are Sunance, a German company with an office in Bristol. CDN Planning are a planning consultancy based in Swansea.

'Team Running with Nancy' raise awareness of CF

TEAM Running with Nancy (TRWN) which is inspired by little Nancy Thomas from Llantwit Major and supports charities dealing with cystic fibrosis, has enjoyed a varied year of running, cycling and swimming.

Nancy's mother Lucy explained: "Supporters have covered hundreds of miles in training and competitions to raise awareness of the disease.

"The events have been all over the country in all kinds of weather and the dedication has been unwavering.

"Kristie and Tina ran the Great North Run, Gary Davies is now an 'Ironman' after completing Ironman Wales, which is a 2.3 mile swim followed by 112 mile cycle, and finishing with a marathon – an amazing achievement off the back of him completing 24 marathons in 12 months.

"Sally Owen took the first ladies to the Cardiff Love Run. Lucy Clare and Sarah took part in Trekkfest Peak District, a distance of 30 miles. Gareth Payne has taken medals in MB enduros this year and the junior section of TRWN has run in the Cardiff Bay and Kidney Wales 10Ks."

In total, since April this year, TRWN has taken part in over 30 events, with Nancy and junior members taking part too. When Team Running with Nancy was first formed, dad Lyn had problems taking his daughter along in her buggy with race organisers citing 'health and safety' as the reason.

Fortunately, those issues have been resolved and Lyn continues to run with Nancy in her buggy in 10k races – with her nagging him to: "Run faster, daddy!"

Nancy was presented with an award by Welsh Commonwealth gymnast Frankie Jones at the Kidney Wales 10k; and some of Nancy's friends Josh, Mia, Aneurin, Evan and Eloise, recently held a sale of loom bands to raise money for the cystic fibrosis cause.

Lucy explained: "We continue to raise money for research into cystic fibrosis via the UK Cystic Fibrosis Gene Therapy consortium, but consider that raising awareness of CF is as much a part of our ethos.

"TRWN continues to amaze us as people are always asking to run with us and we feel honoured, knowing the hard work that goes into training.

"Taking part in events can be expensive and tends to add up, as most events have a minimum £20 entry fee, so we want to thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts. Knowing that people care, and showing they care can be two different things when times are tough.

"We are never short of that kind of support. Cuddy Charitable Trust continues to offer us its support, which is invaluable when we are running a family alongside all our other interests and commitments.

"Nancy continues to remain as well as we can keep her and is a funny, incorrigible and mischievous three-year-old. She is now in nursery and loving it, and attends gymnastics at Vale Gymnastic with Nathan Mullet and swims at Atlantic College with the students."

See information on Cystic Fibrosis and TRWN on social media: www.facebook.com/pages/Running-With-Nancy; Twitter TRWNancy@TRWNancy www.runningwithnancy.com.

'End the long running post office saga'

– demands Vale MP

VALE MP Alun Cairns has issued a call to the Post Office to push Cowbridge to the top of the urgent list, after learning that a destination for a new post office in the town has yet to be identified.

Mr Cairns has now called on the Post Office to prioritise the process to ensure that the facility reopens in Cowbridge as quickly as possible.

The post office closed in April and local residents are anxious that a post office is in place to take Christmas presents.

Mr Cairns met with a representative from the Post Office at his constituency office in Barry and expressed his anger that the town has been without a facility since the spring.

Mr Cairns said the current situation was exasperating: "I am grateful to the Post Office for meeting with me to give a full update, but I have insisted in no uncertain terms that they get the Cowbridge branch open urgently.

"They need to identify a suitable site, so I am calling on all involved to place a top priority on getting the facility open once more so that the disruption to local residents and traders can end.

"This is a hugely important facility, and I am pressing hard for a resolution to a problem that is causing major problems for the community."

The Vale's Assembly Member, Jane Hutt, also raised the issue of Cowbridge Post Office when she met Post Office chief, Laura Tarling, in Barry last week.

She said: "I have met with Post Office chiefs to discuss the urgent need for a post office in Cowbridge, and have asked for reassurances that all is being done to find alternative premises in the town."

A Post Office spokesman told The GEM this week: "We are very sorry for any inconvenience experienced by customers as we try and find a solution to reopen a Post Office service in Cowbridge.

"Discussions with a number of interested parties are progressing well, and given the interest, we are confident that one of the current applicants will be in a position to progress, and we would hope to see the service resume in the autumn."

He added: "We will consult with local customers and other interested parties, once we have a formal proposal to share."

As an interim solution, the Post Office has linked up with Greenlinks Rural Community Transport to provide two minibuses providing transport to Post Office branches in Llantwit Major and Bridgend. The minibuses run several times a day and can be booked by calling 0800 294 1113.

The date is announced for Reindeer Parade

COWBRIDGE Reindeer Parade will go ahead on Sunday, November 30, quashing rumours that it might not take place.

The event was confirmed by the chairman of Cowbridge Chamber of Trade, Alun John, speaking to The GEM on Tuesday this week.

Alun said: "Plans are well under way for November 30, despite rumours to the contrary.

"This year, there will be even more going on round the town.

"Apart from the parade and normal entertainment, there will also be a Farmers' Market, although the location has yet to be decided."

Organisers of the Reindeer Parade and festive lights plan to have Christmas trees in front of businesses as in past years.

Alun said: "All those businesses who want a Christmas tree should get in touch with either me at Arthur John, or Simon Leadbitter at Simon's Cycles."

If an individual business has an external socket, organisers can plug tree lights in; if not, it is up to a business to arrange its own link up.

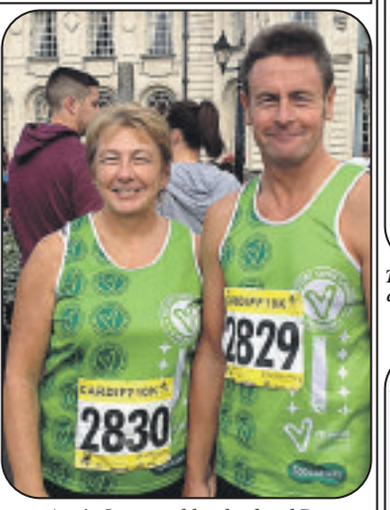
If a business belongs to the chamber of trade, it gets a tree free – for others, Christmas trees will be available at a fee to be arranged.

A Nativity parade will also be a part of the Reindeer Parade celebrations, thanks to help from the local 'Churches Together'.

Alun added: "Cowbridge Chamber of Trade holds its AGM on Tuesday, October 7, in the Bear Hotel at 6pm. We hope as many members as possible will be able to make it."

Ystradowen woman is running for Velindre!

ABOVE (left to right): Velindre team members, Dr Carys Morgan; Renata Poole; Caroline Methven; Annie Jones and Daniel Payne.



Annie Jones and her husband Dave.

Report by PHILIP IRWIN

AN Ystradowen woman will be running the Cardiff Half Marathon this Sunday (October 5) as part of a Velindre Hospital team.

Annie Jones, a clinical nurse specialist at the hospital, said she was taking inspiration from the strength of character and the fighting spirit of patients that she had met there.

She told The GEM: "I have no background in running, so I have had to start from scratch. However, my husband Dave is a keen runner, and he has been a huge help in supervising my training."

Annie works in the upper gastrointestinal (UGI) department at Velindre, and around 20 fellow workers have joined the Velindre team.

They will be supporting a Velindre charity called ATTAC (Action to Target Treatment Against cancer).

She said: "UGI cancers affect the upper part of the digestive system, including the stomach, pancreas, oesophagus and liver.

"These cancers are among the most difficult to treat, as patients are often diagnosed late with advanced disease.

"So, we are supporting the ATTAC appeal which aims to increase awareness of these 'hidden' cancers, and to raise the money needed to continue with vital research programmes.

"The cash also goes to fund clinical nurse specialists who crucially support patients (and their families) through complex treatments."

More than 20,000 people are diagnosed with UGI cancers every year in the UK, and Wales has one of the highest incidences, with more than 1,300 diagnoses per year.

Annie added: "We are very proud that Velindre Cancer Centre has been at the forefront of treatment and research into better treatments, particularly with regard to radiation.

"Improved radiation treatment planning techniques, together with leaders in the field of UGI research, have produced outcomes that are among the best in the world."

The Velindre team can be sponsored by visiting the justgiving website: www.justgiving.com/attacappealvelindre

Marcoss hosts a Vale ploughing competition

The Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing and Hedging Society recently held a competition at Marcross. Pictured above is Caroline Langford, formerly of Cowbridge, competing on her Ferguson tractor. Pictured below is a two horse power engine! PHOTOGRAPHS BY HEATHER MARCH.

Annabell (11) strikes karate gold in London

ANNABELL STACEY of Cowbridge Comprehensive represented Karate Wales governing body at the British International Karate Open Championships in London, on September 13.

Annabell, coached by Stephen Wellington and Welsh coach Gareth Renolds, took individual kumite gold under-12 girls' open grade, and then a team silver in the girls team of Annabell, Ella Forts-Smith and Alisha Willey.

On Sunday, September 28, Annabell fought in a girls' open grade under 12s to take kumite gold for her club 'Ken bu Kan' in a Welsh karate league championship at Penarth, with Welsh team mate Ella of Vale Karate also in the medals.

REMEMBERING THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

AT its meeting on September 16, in the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, Pontfaen Probus Club welcomed the return of Dr Viv Thomas, who told us more about the history of the Knights Templar of England and Wales.

Apparently, the Order established few settlements in Wales, but we learnt a little of one, believed to have been established in the 13th century at Llanmadoc on the Gower, bringing with them their vows of chastity, poverty and obedience.

We learnt a little more of the early contributions of the order to modern values and diverse establishments, such as the health service and banking.

As regards settlements in England, the present writer was intrigued to learn of the importance to the order of the Hertfordshire town of Baldock, near his home as a teenager, and of its link by name with Baghdad.

The club is made up of men with professional or business backgrounds who are now semi or fully retired.

Anyone interested in learning more of the Pontfaen Club should contact secretary Colin Wilson on 01656 860498.

The October 21 meeting will focus attention on the world wars, when Eileen Younghusband, who worked at Bletchley Park during World War Two, will speak on 'Women at War'.

GH

'Give 250,000 a pay rise' Plaid Cymru demand

PLAID CYMRU has unveiled its first signature policy for the 2015 general election campaign – a Living Wage that would secure a pay rise for more than 250,000 Welsh workers.

The candidate for Ogmore, Tim Thomas, said: "Plaid Cymru believes that nobody in Wales should be paid less than they need to live upon. That is why we pledge to give more than 250,000 Welsh workers a pay rise by making the Living Wage a key commitment for the 2015 general election campaign.

"By raising the minimum wage to be in line with the Living Wage, we will be able to raise living standards and boost local economies as people will have more money in their pockets to spend.

"Analysis shows that it is more commonly women, the under 30s and part-time workers who suffer most from low wages. A Living Wage would ensure that none of these groups are left behind and would improve the lot of entire households, not just individuals."

Ogmore Castle vintage tractor run at Castle

THE Ogmore Castle vintage tractor run will be held on October 5 in the Ogmore Castle Field, by permission of Mr Robert Williams.

All participants are required to complete an entry form with their name, address and insurance cover number and will be issued with a number.

Tractors and equipment, (link boxes and trailers) must be in good condition and safe; and there must be approximately five tractor lengths between each vehicle.

There must be no overtaking on the route, other than breakdowns, and due consideration must be given to other road users – drivers, walkers, cyclists, horse-riders.

The planned route is: *Ogmore – Southerndown – Wick – Colwinston – Llysworney – Pentre Meyrick – Corntown – Ewenny – Ogmore Village.*

Entry forms for sponsorship can be obtained on 01656 654440.

Basil George

Art society meeting

ON Thursday, October 9, Cowbridge Art Society will be holding a practical painting/drawing session which will be run by members.

Members can use any medium of choice to work on a suggested theme/topic.

The society meets on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge, 7pm – 9 pm and visitors and new members are most welcome.

For details of the society's activities, see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

ABOVE; Wales & West Utilities colleagues gave Llansannor Primary School garden a make-over.

Local school's gardens are given a make-over

WALES & WEST Utilities has helped to revamp an outside area for Llansannor Church in Wales Primary School near Cowbridge.

Colleagues from the gas distribution company channelled their 'inner Titchmarsh' to help develop a wasted allotment area into an exciting exploration of the natural world, with a sensory pit, bird house, minibeast area and a bug hotel.

The 14 volunteers took part in a ground-force style makeover of the area, which included landscaping work, the creation of raised plant beds, a greenhouse and a bench – to sit and enjoy the new stimulating open space.

The area will allow the school to grow its own plants, fruit and vegetables, to be studied, eaten and sold locally.

Wales & West Utilities director of business services, Mark Oliver said: "It really was a pleasure to be able to help a wonderful school such as Llansannor Primary, who do so much to encourage their pupils to lead healthy lifestyles.

"The team had great fun and, although it was hard work, they were really pleased with the outcome.

"This new outdoor area should give pupils the chance to learn about plants, fruit and vegetables, and the important ecosystems that rely on them.

"Delivering projects like this highlights the power of volunteering and how much can be achieved in one day."

Llansannor Church in Wales Primary School serves the wider Cowbridge area also taking pupils from Llanharan and Pontyclun.

Claire Cook at Llansannor Church in Wales Primary School, said: "Thanks to the hard work of the volunteers the children can now enjoy a host of outdoor lessons.

"They can learn all about the industrious minibeasts as well as the science behind nature as they grow their own plants, fruits and vegetables."

Community news from St Hilary

A Ride for Dave

THE charity bike ride '40 Miles for Dave' takes place on Saturday, October 11 from The Bush, St Hilary at 10am.

The 40-mile ride is for serious cyclists but there is also a 10-mile option for the less athletic!

The event will raise money for research into blood cancers and has been organised by friends of David Evans, of the Granary, who died of leukaemia in October 2012.

Andy from The Bush, who is a keen cyclist, has planned the routes and is generously providing sustenance for the participants.

Even if you do not have a bike, please come along and cheer the riders on their way in the morning or welcome them back around lunchtime.

There are no sponsorship forms; you can make a donation on line (www.justgiving.com/RideForDave/) and there will be a bucket on the bar in The Bush for spare change.

Quiz night

THE Legendary Bush Sunday Quiz is on October 5 at 8pm; £1 per person; winning team takes all.

Golden Snowball will be C£20.

Apple juice

HARVEST Cowbridge community group is planning apple related activities, including mapping fruit trees, volunteer harvesting, re-distributing fruit surpluses and juice pressing.

Members will be at the Cowbridge Farmers' Market on October 4 and 18 with a press, so bring your apples to juice!

Volunteer harvesters, pressers and helpers are wanted. No experience necessary.

If anyone in St Hilary has spare apples (windfall or low hanging) available, the Harvest volunteers would love to collect them for use on the community juicing days in October. Please contact Debbie Leigh on 07890 407670, or Liz Loch on 07747 688219.

Tea and talk

ON Tuesday, November 4 villagers are invited to enjoy tea and cakes in the village hall between 2.30pm and 4.30pm.

However, there is a catch! We want to gather villagers' memories of living in the village, as well as share what we have already discovered.

What better way to spend the afternoon than gossiping about the past and sharing photos of interest – we would like to scan any photos or documents to enrich the conversations.

And if you have any documents that you think might be of interest bring them along.

Everybody welcome – even if you are (relatively) new to the village.

Race Night

RACE Night is on November 21; fish and chip supper/bar. Tickets £7.50 from Liz Loch: 774578/07747 688219.

Proceeds to Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research Trust.

The day the sun shone on Llanmaes Applefest!

CRISP, fresh and delicious was the verdict on the taste of apple juice produced at the first Llanmaes Applefest.

Each press of 28 kgs of apples was enthusiastically sampled and subtle changes noted between different varieties of apples.

Children actively participated in the juicing process by feeding the mill, collecting the juice and saving the pulp for the local pig.

Their craft table produced artistic bottle labels and a more creative type of apple to stick on a huge paper tree. They then enjoyed storytelling on the magic carpet while they ate their toffee apples.

The event proved successful, thanks to the enthusiasm of the local community and Llanmaes would like to encourage families in other villages to take part next year. **DH**

Business owner asks why public don't get more time on Holton Road

by GEM REPORTER

A Holton Road trader says he despairs of the Vale Council sorting out a parking issue that he claims deters customers from returning to the town's main thoroughfair.

Currently, Holton Road has parking bays with unloading times for businesses which run from 6am in the morning until 12 noon.

Members of the public who use them during that period of time are likely to return to their car and find a parking penalty on it.

After midday, the bays can be used by members of the public.

Local businessman Ferda Ulug, who owns La Cucina, on the corner of Holton Road and Regent Street, has campaigned for a change in the hours so people can park in the bays from 10am.

"Currently, half the day is designated for unloading – we're here to serve customers.

"I've recently had another couple of customers who have had tickets and they won't be back again.

"I can't understand why the Vale Council finds it so hard to relax the restriction to help local businesses."

In January, Ferda presented a petition to local councillor Ian Johnson, requesting that the Vale Council consider more flexible use of the bays. Thirty local business owners or shop managers signed it.

A survey of local businesses was carried out by the council four months ago and Ferda says the consensus backed a relaxation.

"We're still waiting for something to happen," said Ferda.

"What is the problem? The parking restriction affects all sorts of local businesses. It is so simple to sort out. Everyone is frustrated."

Ferda insisted that 6am to 10am was a big enough window for unloading and that although the odd business might have to change delivery times, there would be an upside for everyone in terms of more customers.

Ferda added: "Will the council sort this out before Christmas or will it still be an issue in the new year?"

Michael Clogg, operational manager for highways and engineering, said: "The loading bays are provided to enable the safe and convenient delivery of goods to individual shops without causing an unnecessary obstruction to the traffic flows along Holton Road.

"Following a consultation with businesses along Holton Road, the council concluded that there is currently no commonly held desire, and so no justification, to make any changes to the existing loading bay operation times.

"The situation will be monitored and consideration given to a change of time in the future should it be proved that a majority of the businesses are in favour of such an arrangement."

The council told The GEM that businesses along Holton Road were consulted on July 1, 2014, to gain their views on the operational times of existing loading bays and given options as to preferences for any changes.

The consultation concluded at the end of July and out of the 106 businesses that were hand delivered a questionnaire, only 12 responses were received.

Of those responses, five businesses chose the option of no change, three businesses suggested a reduction in loading time, two businesses wanted to increase loading times and two businesses had other suggestions.

Local post office closure reprieved – *FOR NOW*

by GEM REPORTER

THE Vale MP, Alun Cairns, has welcomed news that following a meeting with Lloyds Pharmacy and the Post Office, an agreement has been made "in principle" to postpone the closure of the post office branch at Highlight Park.

It had been set to close at the end of October. However, Lloyds Pharmacy has now met with its staff to discuss keeping the post office open on their premises until after the busy Christmas period.

The Vale MP told The GEM he called for the meeting to determine what he could do to avoid the closure going ahead, and to learn about Lloyds' decision-making process.

In light of the extension, Mr Cairns wrote to the chief cxecutive of Tesco to highlight the potential of the supermarket chain operating the post sffice from 2015.

Mr Cairns said: "I am very grateful to Lloyds Pharmacy for meeting with me in Barry and agreeing in principle to extend the life of the post office in the store. I am working to find an alternative site in the area.

"We must avoid a short notice closure, and identify a new site as a priority, to ensure that residents in Highlight Park are not left without an essential service during the run-up to Christmas.

"There are a number of improvements that could be made to the process when a commercial decision on a particular site is made.

"I have contacted Vince Cable, Secretary of State for the department responsible, to highlight the situation that we have here in the Vale and push for a more efficient switching process, " the MP added.

• ***Post Office chief, Laura Tarling, also met the Vale's Assembly Member, Jane Hutt, and local councillors Claire Curtis and Chris Elmore last week.***

Ms Hutt reported: "I have also written to Lloyds Pharmacy to ask that they extend their notice to leave, so as to allow the Post Office more time to find another provider of this valuable service in Highlight Park."

Support for 'hub' plan

PICTURED ABOVE: From left – Branwen Clarke, Rob Owen and Ann Hibbs with regional AM Andrew RT Davies, who has backed a local campaign to restore a chapel in the village of Treoes. The conservation and repair of Saron Chapel and Vestry is being driven by the Friends of Saron and forms part of a broader plan to establish a new 'heritage hub' in the village.

Volunteers wanted for charity card shop

A COWBRIDGE Christmas charity shop is looking for a volunteer manager to look after the operation, from late October until mid-December.

A regular Christmas tradition in the town, the 'Cards for Good Causes' shop is one of 300 outlets across the UK. It has been in Cowbridge since 1995.

Area organiser Louise Lawes, told The GEM: "The manager's role (which can be shared) involves supervising the day-to-day running of the shop, organising a rota of volunteers, re-ordering stock and some paperwork.

"We would also welcome additional volunteers, who could choose to come in for a morning or afternoon."

For more information, contact Louise Lawes in 01985 214389, or on 07918776688.

Cowbridge Farmers' Market open for business!

Cowbridge Farmers' Market is open once again this Saturday (October 4). Recently, local Assembly Members visited to show their support . (See page 14 for more details).

PHOTOGRAPHS by MIKE WILCOCK

Historic house welcomes visitors on a special Open Doors day and Feastival

ABOVE: The team aiming to bring St John's House back to its former glory, some dressed in medieval garb.

Photos by **MANDY THOMAS**
(Available for purchase, telephone 07541 982794)
www.mandythomasphotography.co.uk

ST John's House Trust (Bridgend) recently enjoyed a very busy and successful weekend, taking part in the Open Doors event and Bridgend Feastival.

St John's House on Newcastle Hill in Bridgend is the oldest habitable building in the area and is believed to have been built around 1500.

Presently, the building is owned by a building preservation trust in London which is prepared to sell the property.

In order to buy the house, restore it and allow it be enjoyed and used by the whole community, a group of local residents formed a charity in 2012.

St John's House is one of four Grade Two* listed buildings in the Newcastle conservation area of Bridgend and has been identified as a "hearth passage house of high status" although so far very little is known of its origins and history.

We would like to see the building as a Heritage Hub, having many uses such as educational, living history events, an art gallery, tea-room and even a unique wedding venue!

The trust had a stand on both days of Bridgend Feastival, with its three authentically dressed medieval peasant women attracting much attention!

Even more characters could be seen at the house, where medieval longbowmen and women re-enactors, and 'Sons of the Dragon' took up residence with their displays of archery equipment, herbs and surgical instruments.

Over 160 people visited the property over the weekend, with many offering their support and expressing interest in the project to bring this beautiful building back to life.

The trust has recently submitted a grant application to the Heritage Lottery Fund to enable the first stages of work to begin and hopes to hear in December if it has been successful.

The house is open, free of charge, on the last Saturday of every month (except December) from 11am to 3pm. More information can be found at the website: www.stjohns-bridgend.org.uk

Report by WENDY HINTON.

Janet is in line for a 'spectacular' award

A 'spectacular' staff member has been put forward for a top award by her colleagues at the Springbank Nursing Home.

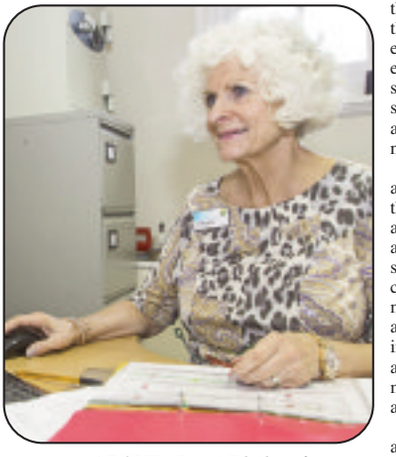
Despite a role that operates mainly behind the scenes, Janet Blythe is considered to be the very heart of the Barry establishment where she has worked for a decade.

The 68-year-old administrator has an open and friendly manner, along with first-rate organisational skills, making her a favourite with staff and residents alike, and prompting senior managers at the home to nominate her for an award in the annual Wales Care Awards, recognising the very best individuals in the industry.

Janet said: "I'm absolutely thrilled to be nominated.

"When I was first told, I couldn't understand why, because I always thought that to win one of these things you had to do something pretty spectacular along the way.

"But my manager said, 'Janet, you do something spectacular every day.'"



ABOVE: Janet Blythe of Springbank Nursing Home.

The Wales Care Awards, run by Care Forum Wales, acknowledge the hard work and exceptional performances of those in the care sector, culminating in a ceremony at City Hall in Cardiff on Friday, October 24.

The home manager at Springbank, Simon Trehearne-Teague, explained why Janet was deserving of such an honour.

He said: "Janet always greets people with a smile and a warm, friendly greeting and people often refer to her as 'the heart of Springbank'.

"She provides a safe harbour for the families of all residents in the home and runs regular families' meetings where people can meet each other, discuss their own experiences and share the burden of having a relative in a care setting.

"Janet also ensures that behind the scenes, the home runs efficiently with her excellent organisational skills, always making sure information is available when needed."

Responsible for all administrative duties of the home, Janet looks after resident finances, agency invoices, sending data to commissioners, maintenance reports and nurse handover information as well as answering phones and meeting people on arrival.

It is a job she excels at and that she continues to do well, despite her own health problems as Simon explained:

"Despite having two knee replacements, Janet is determined to ensure that the service residents and their families receive is of a gold standard."

Janet is a finalist for the award in the Outstanding Service category, sponsored by Hallmark Care Homes, and will have to wait until October 24 to find out if she is the winning candidate.

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It's chop, chop, as... THE VALEWAYS VOLUNTEERS GO INTO ACTION!

ABOVE: Valeways volunteers, Derek the Weatherman, walk leader Will Renwick and Teilo the dog, at the ancient burial chamber near Tinkinswood.

ALL summer long, Valeways volunteers, in collaboration with local community groups, schools and businesses, have been chopping away!

Armed with their loppers and shears, they attacked both under and overgrowth to remove blockages along public footpaths, to liberate stiles and steps from the green grip of brambles and stinging nettles iful Welsh countryside.

Did you know that you can contact Valeways about any 'green' obstructions you encounter on your walks?

Derek the BBC Weatherman and his crew certainly knew; as part of their preparations to film the new series of *Weatherman Walking* they called upon Valeways' expertise of their very own Millennium Heritage Trail, a 100km long circular walk in 16 sections that takes in the whole of the Vale.

Soon enough, a suitable walk was identified and Valeways' task force got on its way. Volunteer coordinator Mark Rosoman and the Tuesday group went out and cleared the path, because that's just one of the things you can do when you're a Valeways volunteer.

Finally, all that was left was to go back on the day of filming and get a picture for the archives!

To volunteer with Valeways, make a donation, or for more information, call 01446 749000; or email: info@valeways.org.uk.

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Coun Rob Curtis receiving his medal at the finishing line from Bill Oddie of Springwatch.

Councillor's run to save gorillas

THE Vale of Glamorgan's biodiversity champion, Coun Rob Curtis, has just completed his second London 'Great Gorilla Run' to raise funds for the remaining mountain gorillas of the Virunga mountains in Africa.

Hundreds of people dressed as gorillas ran, jogged or walked the 8km though the City of London.

As there are no more than 800 mountain gorillas left in the wild, places in this year's run was limited to 800 in total.

Coun Rob Curtis said: "When I was 26, I was lucky to be part of a trans-African expedition which gave me the opportunity to visit the Mountain Gorillas in the wild. It was an experience which I will treasure for the rest of my life. That is why I urgently need people to sponsor me to reach my target of £400!"

Please make cheques to 'The Gorilla Organisation' and send to Coun Curtis's home address, 118 Merthyr Dyfan Road, Barry, CF62 9TJ, or donate on the Gorilla Organisation's website at www.gorillas.org.

BARGAINS AT BOBATH SHOP!

PICTURED: Left to right, Jack Bayley-Loyn, Sarah Rhoden (shop manager) and Jennifer Carroll (Bobath centre director).

BOBATH Children's Therapy Centre Wales opened its latest charity shop at 150 Holton Road, Barry, on Friday, September 26.

Gail Griffiths, head of fundraising and retail, said: "This is our first shop outside Cardiff and reflects our need to expand our retail operation, which has become a very important income stream for the charity. We treat children from all over Wales and have a number of families who attend the centre from the Vale."

Shop manager, Sarah Rhoden, said: "The shop looks fantastic and I'm looking forward to welcoming our first customers."

Bobath are seeking volunteers to assist on the till as well as help prepare stock. For more information, telephone 01446 700670.

PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

From country park to the coastal path

ELEVEN female walkers and their leader Clive set out in overcast weather from the Dare Valley Country Park, which has been created on derelict colliery land, and climbed to Craig Pen-Rhiw-Llech before joining part of the long distance Coed Morgannwg Way to reach Mynydd Bwllfa.

They crossed open moorland before a refreshment break which was interrupted by the noise coming from a wind farm construction site and the group were glad to move on along indistinct pathways to Mynydd Cefn-y-Gyngod.

Continuing across fields, a rocky area provided seats for their lunch break before the return to their start via Nant Melyn Farm and Cwmdare.

Six walkers joined Joy at St Curig's Church, and meadows beside the Whitelands Brook led uphill to Port Road where fields, tracks and some road-walking led to their first stop at the delightful St Mary's Church in Penmark, which, fortunately, was unlocked allowing them entry.

They descended and followed the rough farm track through the Kenson Valley, then across Fonmon Estate land, turned south and reached East Aberthaw where lunch was enjoyed at Pleasant Harbour.

The Wales Coast Path led them up the cliff path where the hot sun was on their backs as they trekked through Fontygary Caravan Park to Rhoose Point with its flooded disused quarries, now a haven for wildlife.

Then through Porthkerry Caravan Park, from where they descended into Porthkerry Park and with stunning views of the pebble beach through to Cold Knap and the tall stone viaduct, a short steep climb through woodland rounded off the day.

On October 4, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a 12-mile hard walk taking in Fan Gyhirych and Fan Nedd; contact Robin on 029 2051 4051.

On October 5, meet 10am at Cogan for a walk in Cosmeston and Lavernock Nature Reserve; contact Pam on 029 2025 5102.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots, and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, contact the walk leader for advice. To follow the group, log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com.

Joy Strangward

Jobs Fair

LOCAL job seekers are being encouraged to attend a jobs fair, with their CVs, at the Barry Memorial Hall on Friday, October 3, from 10am to 2pm.

The event is being organised by Barry Communities First in partnership with the Vale Council and Job Centre Plus.

Employers already booked to attend include Costa Coffee, the Vale Council, Travel Lodge, Copthorne Hotel and Toys R Us.

In addition, there will be training and advice providers, along with volunteering organisations in attendance.

To find out more, contact Communities First on 01446 709432 or visit www.BarryCommunities First.org.

Advice surgery

ELUNED PARROTT, regional AM for South Wales Central, will be holding a surgery at Morrisons Supermarket, Penny Way, Barry, CF63 4BA between 1pm and 2pm, on Friday, October 3.

PACT meetings

WENVOE coffee and chat at the Wenvoe Arms on October 2 at 11am.

GIBBONSDOWN PACT at Barry Rugby Club, Merthyr Dyfan Road on October 13 at 7pm.

COWBRIDGE PACT at Cowbridge Fire Station on October 13 at 11am.

DINAS POWYS PACT at Bethesda Chapel, Fairoaks, Dinas Powys on October 13 at 7pm.

COFFEE and chat at the Red Lion, Bonvilston, on October 14 at 11.30am.

ST AUGUSTINES PACT at the Windsor Public House on October 15 at 7pm.

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Duck race at Dinas Powys raises funds for ValePlus

A VALEPLUS fundraising duck race held at Sunnycroft, Dinas Powys, ran to three races, due to the amount of support. The winners received cash prizes and a total of £320 was raised, which will benefit service users in the Barry and Llantwit Major centres.

'Cut number of councils to 10'

THE Vale of Glamorgan Council meeting last Monday evening considered the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) response to the Welsh Government's White paper on merging councils.

If there is one thing VoG seem to be able to agree on, it's that they are doing a great job and should be left alone.

The White Paper supports the notion of reducing 22 councils to 12, but the WLGA preferred solution is to increase the number of councils to 26: introducing four new regional councils.

I believe there are far too many councillors in Wales and that the number of principle councils could be reduced to at least 10.

Creating more tiers of government as proposed by the WLGA seems to be yet another defensive reaction. Given the level of finance now available, fewer principle councils, supported by a few regional committees, and a much improved role for community councils seems a good way forward.

Dennis Harkus, Barry.

Don and Doreen's 65th wedding anniversary!

SPECIAL wishes from the Queen and the First Minister, Carwyn Jones, were the order of the day when Donald and Doreen Stych celebrated 65 years of marriage on September 24, with daughters Carol and Patricia and other members of the family – including their youngest great grandchild, Theo.

Married at St Stephen's Church in Cinderford in the Forest of Dean in 1949, they moved to Dinas Powys in 1960 and now live near Llantwit Major.

Don, 88 years old, an insurance broker, ran his own company with Doreen, who is 86, for many years in Cardiff Bay, before moving the business to Cowbridge.

BIG FILL

THE BIG Fill will be in the Buttrills Ward, Barry, on October 11-12 and the Baruc Ward on October 25-26.

Potholes will need to be reported on the Monday to Friday prior to the weekend the team's in the ward. The BIG Fill schedules can be found in the local press, on Twitter and Facebook and on the Vale website*www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk*

To report a pothole, call the contact centre on 01446 700111 and say you are reporting a pothole under the BIG Fill campaign, or email thebigfill@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

If a pothole is marked with a white ring, there is no need to report it. The BIG Fill is already on the case.

Earlier in September, Big Fill visited the wards of Court and Castleland, where approximately 332 potholes were repaired using 15 tonnes of tarmac.

VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

'DOING NOTHING NOT AN OPTION AGAINST THE TERROR THREAT'

Vale MP **Alun Cairns** reports to GEM readers

LAST Friday saw Parliament recalled: it is a time when the responsibility of an MP comes into sharp focus – voting on military action in another part of the world is not done lightly.

The threat of the so called Islamic State has dominated the news agenda for a number of weeks, and the Prime Minister recalled members from great distances to hold a debate on the role Great Britain has in responding to this new, but fast developing threat.

I voted for military action, along with 523 other Members across both sides of the House.

The establishment of IS is a threat to our own stability here at home, and across the Middle East. The Prime Minister made it clear that we won't be sending combat boots on the ground, but we will be providing air and reconnaissance support for our allies, as efforts are made to undermine the threat posed by this new brand of terror.

The debate lasted for seven hours and was conducted in a non-partisan manner on all sides of the house. There was a genuine appetite to listen, and the majority of MPs chose to support air strikes and a campaign that is likely to last for an extended period, rather than days.

There was a clear road map set out in the approach made by David Cameron; we are supporting several Middle East countries and our remit is limited.

Iraq requested support, and we support our allies when faced with evil. That is not to say that we don't have concerns, but the Prime Minister set out a clear remit for action, and I agree with him that doing nothing when we see the beheading of a British citizen is not an option. We have to act in the face of such brutal terror.

When a new organisation like IS takes a territory larger than that of Great Britain in such a short space of time, it is time to respond. It is clear that this is not war on a particular country, but a response to a new threat that we must face.

I support the Prime Minister; we have a responsibility to take action and subdue this threat to our country and others.

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All you have to do is email gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk telling us in no more than 200 words why you think your nomination deserves the help.

Normal competition rules apply. Judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. Closing date: 30th October 2014

School's coffee for Macmillan

ON Friday, September 26, mums at Oak Field Primary School gathered to raise funds for Macmillan Cancer Care.

The PTA helped organise a coffee morning where everyone was tempted by fantastic donations of home made cakes.

Mums and children enjoyed a chat while helping to raise money for this worthy cause.

The mums show off their baking wares!

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Pictured above are: Colin Smith, Chair of Piers Society; Dr David Trotman, Director of Penarth Arts and Crafts Ltd; Peter Andrews, Pier Master. Front: Tim Phillips of National Pier Society and Coun Lis Burnett.

Penarth picks up Pier of the Year award

THE National Piers Society has presented Penarth Pier with the Pier of the Year Award 2014, after the pier received more than twice the number of votes of its nearest rival, Cromer.

Professor Tony Hazell, chairman of Penarth Arts and Craft (PACL) representing the Pier Pavilion, and Tim Phillips, vice-chairman of the Piers Society, attended the presentation, along with Coun Lis Burnett, who accepted the award on behalf of the Vale Council.

Coun Burnett, cabinet member for regeneration, said it had been a very special year for the Pier: "Not only winning this fantastic award from the National Pier Society, but also being voted Wales' favourite special place in August 2014."

The recent 4 million pound regeneration of the Pier Pavilion by Penarth Arts and Crafts Ltd in partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan Council restored the art deco building to its former glory in December 2013.

Garden volunteers' efforts are praised

THE Older People's Commissioner for Wales has praised the efforts of volunteers who have transformed the garden of a social housing complex in Penarth.

The Commissioner's team visited Oak Court on Myrtle Road recently, where social landlord Wales and West Housing helps tenants to enhance and maintain the grounds.

A group of residents began the transformation by clearing the overgrown garden and cutting the lawn, before adding flower beds and growing produce, such as runner beans and tomatoes, in a greenhouse they erected.

The residents have now extended a patio area, which they use for barbecues and other social activities, while they also sell the produce they grow for 50p a bag, with the money used to buy plants for the following season.

The volunteers have also been shortlisted in the Sustainable Housing Awards under the Green Tenants of the Year category as a result of a number of environmentally-friendly initiatives, such as converting goldfish waste into plant fertiliser.

The Commissioner, Sarah Rochira, said: "The transformation of the garden, led by a small group of residents at Oak Court, has had a hugely positive impact on the lives of everyone who lives there and has helped to increase their health and wellbeing in many ways.

"As well as giving a sense of achievement and purpose for those involved in the project, their work has helped create a wonderful social area that older people can enjoy alone or through spending time with their friends."

CONSERVATION GROUP'S CALL FOR PARK VOLUNTEERS

THE White Farm Conservation Group will hold their AGM onSunday (October 5) at 11am in the home of local councillors, Rob and Claire Curtis, who will also be serving Fairtrade coffee and tea, followed by a litter pick at the local park.

Current members and those interested in joining are invited.

While the park was created by Persimmon house builders, the group has been busy creating a living memorial to the service men and women who never returned from the First World War at the entrance to Barry along Port Road East.

They have planted around 430 tree saplings and are about to plant a further 270 to reach their target of 700.

The group's main aim is to protect the biodiversity and history of the newly-created Merthyr Dyfan Lane/Whitewell Road open space by planting trees and shrubs, erecting nest boxes, litter picking, encouraging wild flowers and educating local residents of both the history of the St Teilo and St Dyfan ancient church, and the biodiversity that can be attracted to the park.

Chairman and co-ordinator Coun Rob Curtis said: "This area of the old White Farm was set aside as mitigation to protect the remaining biodiversity, due to the new housing being built on the rest of Whitefarm. It was created to allow native wildlife to have a home.

"The park is one of the largest to be created in Barry in recent years, but has yet to be handed over to the Vale Council so we are working with Persimmon to resolve any teething problems until it is.

"We now need local people to come forward as volunteers to protect this wonderful facility. Everyone is welcome to attend the AGM but please bring suitable footware for the litter pick after the meeting."

The vice chairman of WFCG, Coun Anthony Powell, added: "We need to be vigilant to ensure this beautiful circular walk does not become a dumping ground for fly tippers.

"Therefore, I would repeat the message from our chairman, and call on local people to become our eyes and ears and report any flytipping or vandalism to the local Police."

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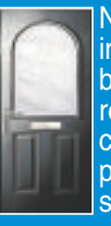
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Cardiff Airport is in the TV spotlight

A NEW series following life at Wales's international airport started last night (Wednesday) at 10.40pm on ITV Cymru Wales.

Narrated by Eddie Butler, the six-part series, which follows Cardiff Airport throughout 2014, gives viewers a behind the scenes insight.

Cameras have been given access to all areas of the business as staff work to ensure the airport remains open for 'business as usual' during the transformation of the terminal building and car parks.

Jonathan Hill, editor for English language programmes at ITV Cymru Wales, said: "This has been an extraordinary nine-month project as ITV cameras followed life at Cardiff Airport in perhaps the most crucial year in its history.

"The stakes couldn't be higher as a new management team set out to bring back the good times. We've received unprecedented co-operation from Cardiff Airport which has made for a fascinating series."

Brett Allen, producer of *The Airport*, said: "From the pilots and crew to the check-in staff and the baggage handlers, from the directors, managers and technicians, the series provides a unique glimpse into life and work at one of Wales' key businesses."

"Narrator Eddie Butler's distinctively wry style brings a combination of humour and observation that combines to make each episode compelling viewing."

Debra Barber, managing director at Cardiff Airport, added: "The year 2014 has been an exciting yet challenging year for Cardiff Airport.

"The series has given us the opportunity to take everyone on the journey with us. By filming the airport team throughout the year, viewers can see the full array of work undertaken on route development, the terminal, customer service and marketing.

"No stone has been left unturned as we work to give Wales an airport to be proud of once again."

Vote for the Vale Youth Mayor!

YOUNG people will have their own election campaign next month for the first Youth Mayor in the Vale.

Between October 13-17, schools, youth clubs and youth organisations from both the statutory and voluntary sector will have the opportunity to vote.

Last year's Local Democracy Week focused on increasing membership to the Vale Youth Forum, a group aged 11-25, who meet regularly to ensure young people have a voice on matters that affect them in the Vale, which led to the election of the Youth Cabinet.

"Building on that success, the next step involves electing a Youth Mayor which will further increase the links between young people and the decision makers in the Vale," said Coun Chris Elmore, cabinet member for children's services.

"This is the climax to over two years hard work by young people, the youth service and the Vale Youth Forum in developing a plan to ensure young people have a real voice and say on matters which not only affect them, but on services across the Vale of Glamorgan.

"Good luck to everyone who is standing to become Youth Mayor and I look forward to working with them in their new role once elected," he added.

MARKS & SPENCER STORE UNVEILS MAJOR MAKEOVER

Local Marks & Spencer staff will be welcoming the public to new look store.

MARKS & SPENCER has unveiled a major makeover at its extended Culverhouse Cross store, providing customers with more shopping options across home, food and fashion.

The store has been transformed to offer customers 5,000 sq ft of interiors inspiration, showcasing the largest M&S home range in south Wales, plus a new 220-seat café with its own outdoor seating area.

The store manager, Allison Jenkins, said: "We've been so excited about the planned changes for our store and are pleased to finally be welcoming customers to see our new look.

"Our customers have been really positive about the redevelopment and couldn't wait to have access to our brand new 'home section'.

"The additions to the food hall and the extension of the café are already proving a hit. It's really wonderful to see so many of our customers already enjoying the new features."

Final countdown at St Donats!

THE final countdown has begun following the Stage Door 1 dress rehearsal of Jesus Christ Superstar at St Donats Art Centre.

Tickets are available on 01446 799100 or www.stdonats.com.

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Branch Manager Phil Powell feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service the Vale, Bridgend, RCT and Porthcawl areas and Phil is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. *'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'*

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Phil a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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MERGER: 'Vale and Cardiff not comparable'

AS September comes to an end, we have seen changes in the Welsh Government's Cabinet, with Leighton Andrews AM becoming the cabinet member for public services.

He has been tasked with delivering the proposals contained within the Williams Commission report on public service governance and delivery, now commonly known as 'Local Government Reorganisation', albeit the report was supposed to be a review of ALL public services, which in my opinion it was not.

The Williams Commission proposes reducing the number of county councils in Wales from the 22 authorities to 12. It proposes merging the Vale of Glamorgan Council with Cardiff Council, forming an authority with a population of almost half a million and creating the biggest council in Wales.

I consider this to be unacceptable as the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff are not comparable partners for merger. The Vale councillors have discussed this and all groups are opposed to this merger and are currently resisting the proposal.

I believe the Vale Council is viable, and performs well and without any issues other than a budget shortfall, which is due to the cuts imposed by the Westminster Government.

This financial issue is a major reason why I do not agree with this Wales-wide reorganisation. The cost is estimated to be up to £400m across Wales and I believe that money would be better spent on services. This equates to be between 5 per cent and 7.5 per cent of the cfouncil's budget, and means we would have to find that amount on top of any cuts already imposed.

This year, we lost 5 per cent of our government grant, or £7.5m, and expect to have a further cut this year of 4.5 per cent, or £6.75m, so the extra cost would inevitably affect services.

The Vale Council considered the Welsh Government's proposals on September 29 and again rejected the merger with Cardiff. However, the Welsh Government now suggests that a voluntary merger with another council could be a possibility.

If this is the case, and there is no other option but to merge with another council, the Vale Council will be asked to consider if there is another council that we could merge with on a voluntary basis.

This is because the Minister has set out a timetable to push the legislation through to force a merger with Cardiff, provided there is a majority in the Welsh Assembly to do so.

Travellers' site

I SHOULD like to finish by referring to an anonymous leaflet that has been distributed in the wards of Cadoc, Castleland, Court and Dinas Powys suggesting that anyone objecting to the LDP proposal to place a traveller and gypsy site in Hayes Road should contact their councillor.

I consider this leaflet to be offensive and I should make it clear that it is not a document sent to you by any councillor. It has apparently been produced by some private individuals, although they do not disclose their names.

The document encourages people to make a comment about the proposal within the Draft Local Development Plan (LDP) for a site at the old council waste amenity site on Hayes Road.

To be clear, the council has a duty to prepare a LDP and is required to assess all housing needs, including those of specific need groups such as gypsies and travellers. The LDP contains a proposal for a site at Hayes Road in Sully.

Consultation on the LDP was undertaken between November 8 and December 20, 2013. At that time, a number of suggestions for alternative sites were received and a further consultation was held on these from March 20 to May 1. 2014.

As the formal public consultation periods have now ended, no further representations can be registered and any new representations received will be considered as being 'not duly made' (a legal term). Therefore, this leaflet has confused matters and no further representations can be made.

All representations received during the formal process are being processed and will be included in the LDP Consultation report that will be published in April/May 2015.

After that an independent planning inspector will hold an examination in public to consider the issues raised during the public consultations and scrutinise the 'soundness' of the council's LDP.

The inspector will then produce a report with recommendations which will be binding on the council, and the LDP will be formally adopted.

I hope that this explains the situation, but I should also mention that the site in question has had travellers living there for almost three years.

VIEW FROM THE VALE

by Coun **NEIL MOORE**
Leader of the Vale of Glamorgan Council

Local pupils celebrate the day with Madame Sian-El!

PUPILS from Ysgol Iolo Morganwg in Cowbridge and Gwaun y Nant in Barry celebrated this year's 'European Day of Languages' in their weekly French classes run by La Jolie Ronde licensee, Sian Elin Jones, better known to her pupils as 'Madame Sian-El'.

Last Friday was the official European Day of Languages and this year marks the initiative's 13th anniversary of the decision by the Council of Europe, to declare a European Day of Languages to be celebrated on September 26 each year.

Sian Elin, a fluent French speaker, said: "It is such an exciting time for languages! Learning languages comes so easy to young children. They have a keen ear and are very receptive. At this age, the strategies and language learning skills which they use for developing their own language are very active.

"The European Day of Languages is the perfect opportunity to promote and encourage the importance of language learning at primary level, a great way to start new initiatives and excellent for furthering children's language capability.

"England has just introduced modern languages into the primary school curriculum at key stage 2, which is a much needed change. Welsh is already being taught in primary schools here, which is brilliant, but I'd love to see the Welsh Government introducing further languages into the primary curriculum.

"It really is a case of the earlier the better when it comes to languages," she added.

A message from Mitts

HELLO, my name is Mitts. I am one of the longest staying cats currently in the Adoption Centre so my adoption fee has been waived to try to get my homed ASAP.

Sadly, I found myself here at the centre when my owner became too unwell to care for me any longer. I am now hoping to find my new forever home, where I can be the one and only pet. Please come and say hello!

Contact the Deputy Manager, Cats Protection, Bridgend Adoption Centre, Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin, Bridgend, CF32 9UJ on telephone 01656 726 621; email: bridgend@cats.org.uk; www.bridgend.cats.org.uk

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Mayor and AMs support Cowbridge Farmers' Market

PHOTOGRAPHS by
MIKE WILCOCK

THE Mayor of Cowbridge with Llanblethian, Coun Peter Knapp, spoke out recently about the benefits that the Farmers' Market brings to the town – and issued an appeal for local people to support it.

Also visiting the market in Cowbridge were Vale AM Jane Hutt, and Welsh Conservative Leader, Andrew RT Davies AM.

Coun Knapp told The GEM: "The farmers' market is one of the things that help make the town special.

"It is a chance for the public to deal directly with the producers, and I believe it makes a difference to the town." He continued: "The extra events that take place in the town all help make it distinctive. For instance, the Cowbridge Music Festival finished recently, and that was a huge success.

"It would be a shame if we were to lose the farmers' market.

"I'm not convinced that everyone in the area knows about it, as I have met a few people who did not know where it was taking place!"

The Farmers' Market takes place fortnightly in Cowbridge, in Arthur John car park, North Road. The next market is this Saturday, October 4.

It also takes place monthly in Penarth in Westbourne School, on the fourth Saturday of the month.

Local Cadets at 'amazing' RAF Cosford airshow

AIR CADETS from 372 (Barry) Squadron, recently travelled to Royal Air Force Cosford to see one of the premier military air shows in the United Kingdom.

Few events can rival the intensity, drama and spectacle on offer at one of these displays. The Air Tattoo not only includes thrilling flying action from air forces around the world, but the Cadets were also treated to non-stop entertainment on the ground with many interactive displays.

The Cadets saw many impressive flying displays, including the RAF aerobatic team, the Red Arrows; the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight – Spitfire, Hurricane and Lancaster, Typhoon, Avro Vulcan, Canberra PR9, Breitling Wing Walkers, Pitts Special and the RAF Falcons parachute display team; as well as many displays on the ground.

Cadet Arron Shires said: "The flying displays were really cool. My favourite display was seeing the Red Arrows flying so fast and close together. The hole day was amazing."

The Cadets were: Alex Cheeseley, Pippa Cowles, Rhys Lewis, Jake Paterson, Jacob Petre, Ellie Poulakis, Georgina Poulakis, Nathan Thompson, Rhys Williams and Arron Shires.

372 (Barry) Squadron have vacancies for boys and girls between 12-18 years old. The Squadron parade on Mondays and Wednesdays 7pm–9.30pm behind Adams Funeral Parlour (by the Memorial Hall) or you can phone the Squadron on 01446 747734, email oc.372@aircadets.org or visit www.372squadron.org for more information.

Another award for Vale's Maria

SOUTH Wales born Maria Leijerstam has this week received the Honorary Sporting Colours award from the University of Plymouth. This award is to mark her dedication to sport and her inspiration to individuals around the world to follow their dreams and live a life of adventure.

Maria, who runs the events and training company Multisport Wales, became a Guinness Book of Records holder earlier in the year as the first person in the world to cycle to the South Pole.

Maria was also awarded the South Wales Business Award, for her contribution to Business and Society earlier in September.

Man's quest to find grandfather who found sanctuary in Wales

A young Serbian man is appealing to the people of south Wales to help him find out what happened to his long lost grandfather who fled a civil war.

The family are certain Danilo Ljubenko lived for a number of years in Pontypridd – and may have died in 1985 – but can't be sure of his true fate.

His grandson Slobodan Erdeljan (24) got in touch with The Glamorgan GEM in the hope that a reader may remember Danilo and shed some light on a mystery that has haunted the family for decades.

From his home in Belgrade, Slobodan has begun a search for information which he hopes will assemble the jigsaw of Danilo's life in Britain.

"My grandfather escaped to London from Belgrade when World War Two started and after that the family lost contact with him.

"The family received a letter, and the address on the envelope referred to a street in south Wales – in Pontypridd."

The handwritten address in blue ink read: 12 Howell Street, Cylfynydd, Nr Pontypridd, Glam.

Slobodan said: " I searched on Ancestry.co.uk. and discovered that a person named Danilo Ljubenko died in Glamorgan in 1985.

"Perhaps The GEM and people in south Wales could help to find out if he is alive. It not, he must have some family there and they might have some information. It would mean a lot to me, and my family."

by TIM CHAPMAN

Danilo Ljubenko was born on September 12, 1924, in Orašje, which is in the north east of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Slobodan explained: "Back then – and until 1929 – it was called the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. Then the name was changed to Kingdom of Yugoslavia. Although Orašje is in today's Bosnia and Herzegovina, Danilo was Serb by nationality."

Slobodan said his grandfather's sudden departure and the silence that followed it caused the family great anguish.

"My parents, but especially my grandmother, always wondered what happened to him. The thing is we've always been quite a modest family so we were never in a position to investigate or research what became of him, and where he might be.

"He escaped from Belgrade at the time of the Second World War.

"The reason was possibly because during that period, in the former Yugoslavia, there were two sides: chetniks, who were for the king, and partizans, the communists.

"My grandfather was for the king, and since at the time it wasn't safe, he escaped, and they were doing many things that he did not want to be a part of.

"His departure was quite sudden. He was working in a small workshop, and my grandmother was working in a factory. Danilo went in to say goodbye to my grandmother, hugged her, and didn't say much – just that he had to leave. She was crying – she cries every time she tells the story.

"Then he borrowed a horse and cart from his boss and headed for the border. When he got there he paid a guy to take it all the way back.

"I don't think he stayed too long in London. The oldest letter that we have was sent from Wales in 1960.

"In letters he mentioned moving to another apartment and seriously injuring a finger which meant that he wasn't able to work for three weeks."

Slobodan dreams of visiting Wales one day to see where his grandfather lived but financial considerations mean he is unable to.

Recently, Slobodan re-read Danilo's letters from the far-off country of Wales to his grandmother.

"She started crying. I hadn't told her that I had found them. He mentioned my mother in the letters a few times, and asks how she is. He had seen a picture of my mother and said she was beautiful, 'like a film star'."

Slobodan now wonders whether he has Welsh relatives.

If anyone has any answers to the mystery of what happened to Danilo Ljubenko, email gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk; or ring 01446 774484 and ask for Tim or Phil.

Slobodan is hoping GEM readers can help in his quest to find out what happened to his grandfather.

ABOVE: Danilo Ljubenko.

The envelope sent from Pontypridd.

Fantastic time at messy Harvest

I'M writing to thank Rev Melanie Prince and her team of helpers at St Peters Church, Rhoose for putting on a fantastic 'Messy Harvest' for the children of the parish on Sunday.

There was so much to do, ranging from bread making, to creating scarecrows, to finger painting and decorating ginger bread men and cottages.

The activities were suitable for children of all ages and were really well thought out. The short service with singing and action songs for the children was thought provoking.

It was wonderful to see the children joining in and having so much fun. My son certainly had a great time!

Abi and Hector Biddle, Rhoose Point.

ST CYRES SCHOOL

INFORMATION EVENINGS
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Dr J P Hicks, Headteacher, and his staff invite prospective pupils and their parents to attend one of our Information Evenings on the following days:

Monday 13 October – Cogan and Llandough
Tuesday 14 October – Fairfield and St Andrews
Wednesday 15 October – Murch
Thursday 16 October – St Paul's
and any other prospective pupils and parents.

Dr J P Hicks will speak at 6:00 pm prompt in the main hall. This will be followed by a guided tour of our fantastic new school building.

St Cyres School will be only the second school in Wales to have provided every pupil with a personal IPad as part of our innovative ICT strategy. The school enjoys the benefit of state-of-the-art facilities in its new multi-million pound buildings.

Some of the facilities include:

- a 260 retractable-seat hall for school productions
- purpose-built drama and dance studios
- exciting music and media facilities which include a radio and TV station
- a modern fitness suite and stunning multipurpose sports hall
- fully-equipped science laboratories and technology suites
- 50" Apple TV in every classroom
- a dedicated sixth-form wing including a café and study areas
- excellent outdoor sports facilities, including a full size 3G pitch to be completed later this academic year.

St Cyres School Examination Results 2014

- Our best ever GCSE results, with more pupils than ever achieving A* - C grades including English and Maths. GCSE performance was over 7% above the school's previous best.
- Our best ever A Level results, with 83% of all grades being A* - C and 98% of students achieving at least 2 A Level grades. The local authority has congratulated the school for achieving the ***"highest A* - C performance in the Vale".***
- Exceptional English, Maths and Science results in all key stages.
- Outcomes which exceeded all performance targets set by the local authority for 2014.

Strive Together Challenge Yourself Realise Everyone can Succeed

To view our School Prospectus please visit our website: www.stcyres.org

St Cyres School, Sully Road, Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan, CF64 2XP (entrance is off Sully Road)
Email: Contact@stcyres.org Tel: 02920 708708

Apprentices design recycled 'bug hotel' for a local school...

ABOVE: The apprentices (left to right) Giovanni Raffaelli, Jamie Sugden, Ben Mackenzie and Dan Ladner) at Dow Corning Ltd. Photograph by Catherine Lewis.

THE Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales manages Cadoxton Ponds nature reserve, a 35-acre site adjacent to Dow Corning's manufacturing areas, including an education building suitable for school and group educational visits.

Apprentices at Dow Corning have developed a 'bug hotel' for a local school, after Catherine Lewis, education officer at Cadoxton Ponds, asked for their help.They designed a small mammal and bug hotel, building the frame work from recycled materials.

This will be taken to a local school for final assembly in their own wildlife garden. The children will then provide the finishing touches filling the gaps with lots of wildlife friendly material for creatures to shelter and live in.

Spokeswoman Catherine Lewis commented: "The apprentices at Dow Corning have shown that wildlife and industry can coexist side by side. Thanks to them, garden wildlife around the Barry area will be benefiting from their new five-star luxury winter accommodation.

"We're very grateful to The Co-operative who continue to support our work with communities to teach them about the importance of nature."

"Right from agreeing a design, through to scavenging for the materials and then the final build stage, the apprentices had to work as a team to get things completed. They had to overcome challenges as they went along, and all said what a worthwhile and enjoyable exercise it was.

"They are looking forward to delivering the bug hotel to the school to see the children putting on the finishing touches."

THE ELVIS FESTIVAL KEEPS ON GETTING BIGGER AND BIGGER!

Co-writers Nancy Medina and Peter Phillips.

ABOVE (left to right): The cast of 'Et tu Elvie', Karl Wilson, Kate Mayne (still wearing her Priscilla wig), Amy Barnes and Peter Baker.

PORTHCAWL'S Elvis Festival enjoyed fine weather last weekend, and local traders took advantage of record crowds at the event!

Organiser Peter Phillips told The GEM that he was delighted with the scale of the festival, which now has a 'fringe' including around 10 local venues.

Events at the Grand Pavilion were, as usual, sold out, while at festival sponsor, the Hi-Tide Inn, massive crowds were there all weekend enjoying the fun.

Mr Phillips revealed to The GEM that the deputy mayor of Varazdin, a town in Croatia, was spending the weekend in Porthcawl, because the town was interested in staging its own Elvis Festival.

Just like the Hay Festival, which now has off-shoots in Spain, India and elsewhere, the Porthcawl Elvis festival is spreading!

For locals, of course, there is an element of 'same as last year' for the festival, so this year it was good to see an unusual curtain raiser, staged on Friday at the Grand Pavilion.

The Welsh premiere of *Et tu Elvie* – the life of Elvis retold in a series of scenes from Shakespeare – deserved a bigger audience, because the four actors charged with bringing the story to life all did a tremendous job.

The four, Karl Wilson, Peter Baker, Amy Barnes and Kate Mayne, together with director Nancy Medina, are all training at the Bristol Old Vic, and all have a future in the theatre.

Add to that the fact that the show had played for two weeks at the Edinburgh Festival, and it meant that the audience were treated to a professional and imaginative show.

Peter Baker played the young, innocent Elvis, while Karl Wilson played Elvis in the various stages of his career, and I doubt if any of the tribute artists in Porthcawl for the weekend could have bettered him! Starting with Amy and Kate as the two witches from Macbeth – prophesying fame and fortune for the young Elvis – but at a price, the show moved through various Shakespearian scenes.

Amy appeared later as Titania from *Midsummer Night's Dream*, reimagined as a hippy drug pusher introducing Elvis to pills. Amy also got a huge round of applause for her impersonation of Ann Margaret, as the show charted the breakup of his marriage to teenage sweetheart Priscilla.

'Suspicious Minds' – of course – was the song to go with this section.

The end, when the dying Elvis was joined by the young Elvis to sing 'Love Me Tender', was really quite moving – and the audience reaction told its own story.

The cast were constantly fielding compliments as they left the building!

The script, co-written by Peter Phillips and Nancy Medina, definitely has potential, and it would be a shame if this were the last performance.

Philip Irwin

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

In Business Update

GOVERNOR E-LEARNING TOOL NOMINATED FOR TOP NATIONAL AWARDS

THE FFT Governor e-learning tool has been nominated for two national awards – a Fresh Award and an E-learning Award – highlighting the importance of providing support to governors when analysing school data.

The e-learning tool was developed by FFT and iFlourish to support the use and understanding of the FFT governor dashboard – a four page report to help governors evaluate their school's performance more effectively.

Both the dashboard and the e-learning tool have proved a major success with over 15,000 schools using the dashboard to analyse their school's performance and more than 2,000 governors completing the e-learning modules to use data more effectively.

The governor e-learning tool, with its step-by-step interactive approach incorporating video, audio and animation, has helped governors to maximise the use of the governor dashboard to support and challenge their school.

Eighteen months on from when independent not-for-profit educational analysts FFT launched the governor dashboard, governors have become increasingly confident in the way they use data, with many using it as a point of reference when speaking to Ofsted inspectors.

The e-learning tool for Governors can be found at www.fft.org.uk.

fft

We are currently recruiting for a Support Officer to join our team in Cowbridge.

Please visit www.fft.org.uk

TREAT YOURSELF TO A SEXIER, SMOOTHER FIGURE!

BEAUTY WITHIN Medi Spa has launched its latest body contouring and cellulite treatment, the Velashape III, with visible results in as little as one treatment!

Velashape III contours, shapes and slims down the body by improving cellulite and reducing circumference without downtime or discomfort, thanks to its revolutionary technology which combines infrared, radio frequency energy and vacuum to reduce skin laxity, volume and an overall improvement in skin texture.

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15% off a course of treatment in the month of October 2014. Quote GEM

BEAUTY WITHIN medi-spa

QUIT THAT UNWANTED HABIT IN STOPTOBER!!

FOR the past few years, October has become 'Stoptober', giving us a second chance to make a new resolution to change.

Have you been thinking about quitting smoking; reducing or eliminating alcohol from your life, or stopping any unwanted habits?

Sometimes when we set ourselves a challenge to quit a habit, it can feel as if a part of us is trying to sabotage our efforts, rather like an internal tug of war. If you've made the decision to stop and need to quieten the nagging doubts to give yourself a chance, consider the powerful techniques of Solution Focus Hypnotherapy with Sue Pitman.

She has three clinics: near Cowbridge, Barry and Cardiff; free initial consultation tailored to suit you; free CD to listen to between sessions. Don't delay: take your first step forward and never look back.

Contact Sue on 07795 964066/029 20654893 or cardiffhypnotherapysolutions@gmail.com.

IT'S STOPTOBER!

Make this one your last...

Local Hypnotherapist Sue Pitman HPD,DHPMNCH(Reg) is offering £25 off a smoking cessation session booked during October including free back up CD.

Visit www.cardiffhypnotherapysolutions.co.uk or call Sue Pitman on 02920 654893 or 07795 964066

Clinics at Llandow near Cowbridge, Barry & Cardiff

Winter gas safety tips

WITH the cold weather setting in, many households will be relying on gas appliances to keep their family warm this winter.

This increased usage can put pressure on gas appliances and could lead to them breaking down. It's vital that everyone has their gas appliances serviced every year to prepare them for the cold winter months.

Stay safe and don't be left out in the cold this winter!

Did you know?

Having your gas appliances serviced every year will help keep them working safely and efficiently.

Badly fitted and poorly serviced gas appliances can produce deadly carbon monoxide.

A survey of gas engineers showed that most problems with gas appliances are caused by lack of annual servicing.

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After the party, think of recycling

THE party season is around the corner – from Hallowe'en, Bonfire Night, Christmas and New Year events, it's a busy time of year!

The Vale of Glamorgan Council's cabinet Member for the environment and visible services, Coun Rob Curtis said: " The Vale's resort manager at Barry Island, Graham Hatter, shows how easy it is to reuse. Whether you are having a picnic on the beach during the summer or planning a winter event, please reuse items.

"Plastic crockery, drinks containers, serving platters and cutlery are items you can wash and use again and again – ideal if you are entertaining."

Think of other items you can reuse. If you know someone who is a keen gardener, they might be glad of old carpet to keep frost at bay or CDs to scare birds from juicy summer fruits. It's best to reuse where possible, before recycling."

GEM ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

In Business Update

Fashion and fascinators...

SAMANTHA B is in Ewenny, and is often referred to as the village's best-kept secret!

Sam and Suzanne are full of enthusiasm, are always ready to help, and offer a fabulous selection of co-ordinated separates, including labels such as Poppy and Emreco.

Sam took over the shop, formerly known as Nightingales, four years ago, and has got to know her customers extremely well, and buys with them in mind.

Other labels stocked include Marble, Ardini, Brandtex and Casamia, and this season Sam has introduced some exciting new labels – Oscar B, Signature, and Olsen!

Samantha B also stocks necklaces, scarves and bespoke fascinators.

Call in and tell Sam and Suzanne how you heard of them and receive a 10 per cent discount! They are open Monday to Saturday, 10am–5pm (telephone 01656 658388).

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Samantha B is delighted to announce that olsen is back in town!
Call in to view the autumn/winter collection. Look forward to seeing you!
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01656 863963
Our staff have been winners or finalists of Care Forum Wales Awards nearly every year since its inception in 2000

Fun Foundations spreads its wings!

DUE to popular demand, Fun Foundations Day Nursery are in the process of varying their registration with the Care and Social Services in Wales from 15 spaces for the under-two age group to 21 places.

The increase in space will include exclusive Messy Play areas, for both toddler and baby groups. This will allow them to explore and be creative in specifically designed spaces to promote sensory and physical development.

There is currently a waiting list for spaces for the under-two age range. This expansion (due to be implemented on November 1) will enable Fun Foundations to extend its services to more parents searching for quality childcare!

www.funfoundationsdaynursery.co.uk
10% discount for each additional sibling registered. Childcare vouchers accepted.
FUN FOUNDATIONS DAY NURSERY
After School Places Available from £12.00
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Tel. 01446 771117
Wales Pre-school Providers Association
Fun Foundations Day Nursery

Barry Hub chief is earmarked for social enterprise award

ANTHEA CLEMENTS, chief executive officer at YMCA Barry Hub, is one of only two shortlisted nominations from south Wales for this year's Wales Social Enterprise Awards 2014, being held in Llanrwst.

Anthea Clements.

She is shortlisted to the final three in the social enterprise champion category in recognition of her contribution to social enterprises, locally and further afield.

Coun Lis Burnett, in her nomination of Anthea, said: "Anthea is enterprising and as objective in her decision making as any mainstream business, but the way in which her work demonstrates her values and passion for her community and every individual within it are what makes her a true champion".

Starting off with a small, run-down, building, Anthea transformed it into the vibrant centre of activity it is today. First she repaired it and then more than doubled its size, all the time involving the community to ensure that their needs were paramount.

With her at the helm 'The Hub' has provided incubator space for many small social enterprises, a home for community organisations, a centre for delivering local authority services and a base for the highly successful gym club that provided 50 per cent of the Welsh men's Commonwealth Games team at Glasgow 2014.

She has helped and encouraged voluntary sector organisations to move away from reliance upon grant funding and grasp the opportunities to achieve sustainability offered by mixed resource streams.

Self-effacing and modest, Anthea is the person behind successful local social enterprises, coaching, mentoring and offering hands-on support to help them develop the skills and expertise to create sustainable enterprises.

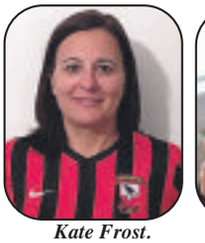
Two such organisations are Bro Radio and Digital Media Enterprise (DME), both based at The Hub and both providing valuable services that help develop community cohesion in the town and wider Vale.

Anthea is a guiding light which others in the community can learn and take encouragement from.

Dinas Wolves mums show support – and star in the club calendar!

Lara Sargent.

Natalie Williams.



Kate Frost.

Dina.

Jo Hewitson.

Emma Mallam.

Karen

THE mums at Dinas Powys Wolves decided that they would like to show their support for their sons by posing in the kit and doing a calendar!

A club spokesman said: "The mums were very grateful to Confused.com for the sponsorship and the coaches decided that the photos would be used in a calender that will be available at Christmas."

Mum Kate Frost said: "My son has been with Dinas for a number of years and we are a family club supporting the lads each week. Doing the calendar is a bit of fun and hopefully the boys will have a giggle."

Lara Sargent explained: "It's a great little team and we want to thank Confused.com for their sponsorship."

Another mum, Natalie Williams added: "My son hasn't played for a few years but joined last season and is loving his football. The mums are all keen to show their support."

Other supportive mums, (but not shown) are Manda Fifield and Cate Morris.

'Site views are taken seriously'

IN reply to a letter from Mr Rob Taylor in The GEM last week about the Sully Travellers' site, although it is difficult to respond to all the individual calls, the following points were made:

Many are disappointed that the Labour-led Vale Council haven't highlighted this matter earlier and brought it to their attention.

Many are also against the permanent siting, while others have no problem with this issue, as the site is remote from Barry.

I can, therefore, assure Mr Taylor that I do take his views seriously, as I do the others; but it is just a real pity that the Vale Council have now closed the public consultation on this matter.

Coun Richard Bertin, Independent, Vale of Glamorgan Council.

Out and About with The GEM

WHAT'S ON IN AND AROUND YOUR AREA?

Age Cymru's 'Positive Week'

THIS week is Age Positive Week – Age Cymru's national celebration of the contribution older people make to our communities.

It includes an older people's eisteddfod; a creative writing workshop; a 50 plus line dancing event and an older people's 'Question Time' event in Cardiff.

Contact www.agecymru.org.uk/agepositive or 029 20431555 for further information.

Charity trek

FUNDRAISERS at Marie Curie Hospice in Penarth invite anyone interested in a "fantastic trek to Costa Rica in April 2016" to a social evening on Thursday, October 2 at Terra Nova in Cardiff Bay, from 5.30pm.

To find out more about the trek visit www.mariecurie.org.uk/costarica or gtelephone 02920 426068.

Cowbridge Choral Society concert

THE St Illtyd's Church in Llantwit Major is the venue for the 'Falling Leaves' concert by the Cowbridge Choral Society at 7.30pm on Saturday, October 4.

The choir will be conducted by Carole Lloyd, director of music and accompanied by Geoff Howells with a programme of some well known classical pieces as well as popular songs from the early 20th century, and there will be guest performances.

Tickets are available from Davies newsagent in Cowbridge, or the box office on 01446 792175.

The society rehearses every Thursday at 7.30pm in the United Free Church, Westgate Street (opposite the Police Station). All are welcome.

Councillors' surgery

THE Llantwit First Independents will be holding a surgery at the Heritage Centre, Town Hall, Llantwit Major on Saturday, October 4 from 9.30am until 11.30am (please note change of venue). Residents who have any issue to raise are welcome to attend.

Vale AM's surgery

VALE AM, Jane Hutt ,will be holding a surgery on October 4, from 10am to 12 noon at Barry CAB office, 119 Broad Street.

Sci-Fi weekend at Llancarfan

LLANCARFAN Community Cinema is hosting a weekend of Sci-Fi films as part of a major nationwide season led by the British Film Institute in partnership with Film Hub Wales.

It opens on Friday, October 17 with *Edge of Tomorrow* (2014, 12A), starring Tom Cruise and Emily Blunt, preceded by a big screen exhibition of galactic photographs.

This is followed on October 18 by a family matinee performance of cult favourite *Flash Gordon* (1980, PG), with music by Queen. All profit from the performance goes to the Llancarfan Primary School PTA, and the film will be accompanied by sci-fi themed fun and games.

The season ends later that day with a performance of Ridley Scott's *Alien* (1979, 18), in a warm-up for Hallowe'en.

Full details are available on the cinema web site: www.llancarfancinema.co.uk.

Vale historian supports *'Read On, Get On'*

CHILDREN'S author, poet, historian and editor Phil Carradice, from St Athan is among Welsh literary figures supporting a UK-wide reading campaign to get all 11-year-olds reading well by 2025.

The coalition called 'Read On, Get On' (Darllena.Datblyga) includes leading charities, organisations and teachers and sets out to galvanise everyone to play their part in getting children reading well.

A simple act such as reading to a child for just ten minutes a day can help make this happen.

Every year, 'four in ten (40 per cent) of 11 year olds in Wales have reading ages below their chronological age' (Estyn 2010-11 report).

The recently published Welsh Government national literacy results also showed that children living in disadvantaged areas did less well with their reading than those in more affluent areas.

Phil Carradice, who has published over 45 fiction and historical titles, has supported the Read On, Get On campaign by writing a poem called 'Medussa' with the help of his five-year-old grandson. The poem can be read and enjoyed on *www.readongeton.org.uk*

ENTERTAINMENT

OCEAN LOUNGE
PORTHKERRY
OPEN FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY NIGHTS

Saturday 4th October
MARK DOUGLAS
Vocal Entertainer

Saturday 11th October
Christine Lee Jones
Female Vocal Entertainer

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£25 GEM FACEBOOK PRIZE

Our GEM Facebook winner for September 18, 2014 is:
LANA RAY-PARSONS
who correctly answered last week's question in The GEM.

Our lucky winning reader, chosen at random wins a £25 prize voucher to spend with any advertiser in last week's GEM.

The competition runs every week throughout 2014 with a potential prize fund of £1,150.

Congratulations to Lana!

REMEMBER TO LIKE US AND SHARE ON FACEBOOK:
facebook.com/glamorgangem

Councillors' surgery

DYFAN Ward councillors Anthony Powell and Claire Curtis will be holding their monthly advice surgery in Buttrills Community Centre, North Walk, Barry on Saturday, October 4 from 11am to 12pm and no appointment is necessary.

Art courses at old library

CREATIVE writing, life drawing and watercolour classes are available at a new arts and culture hub based in Bridgend's old town library.

BCBC and Bridgend Town Council are promoting the courses run by Bridgend Adult Community Learning (ACL) at Carnegie House, Wyndham Street.

On Saturday, October 4, local artist Bryan Shambler will hold a watercolour class for beginners and new starters with the theme 'Autumn Landscape.'

Enfys craft fair

ON Saturday, October 4 Enfys will be holding the first of three craft fairs running up to Christmas at St Ffransis Millennium Hall, Park Road, Barry between 10am and 4pm.

The charity for the October craft fair will be Motor Neurone Disease; West End Cakes will raffle a decorated cake to boost the MND fund.

Contact Beryl on 01446 418695, or Cyril on 01446 400149 for details.

Clothing sale

A PRE-loved clothing sale in aid of Breast Cancer Care will be held at Cowbridge Lesser Hall, on Saturday October 4, between 10am – 12pm. Clothing bargains for all the family.

Table top sale

THERE will be a table top fundraising sale at Peterston Super Ely Church and Community Hall on Saturday, October 4 between 10am and 2pm.

Sixth form pupils from the Bishop of Llandaff High School are holding the event to support an expedition next year to an Indonesian rain forest.

This is arranged through Operation Wallacea, an organisation set up by academics from north American and European universities who design and implement biodiversity and conservation management projects. Students collect data from remote areas used in the research.

The sale will include a variety of goods including arts and craft items, cake stalls, bric-a-brac and nearly new clothes. There will be refreshments and a chance to find out about this worthwhile project.

Vintage show

VINTAGE/classic car and bike meet, last Saturday of every month at the Fawlty Tower Cafe, Llandow Trading Estate; telephone 01446 793631 for details.

Ystradowen service

THE St Owain's Church, Ystradowen is holding its harvest service at 11am on Sunday, October 5 to include Sunday Club for primary school children.

St Owain's supports the local foodbank during Advent, Lent and Harvest and non-perishable food may be left in the church prior to Wednesday, October 8 for the harvest contribution.

Free advice

IF you are living independently at home or a carer/relative looking after a loved one, Age Connect Cardiff and Vale are holding an informal session at the Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on October 7 (10am to 12 midday). No appointment is needed.

Legal advice

AGE Connect Cardiff and Vale are also holding a free legal advice session at the Senior Health Shop on Thursday, October 9 (10am to 12 midday).

Contact 01446 732385 for further information.

Floral demo

MEMBERS of the Barry Floral Society will be entertained by Linda Garrett of Abergavenny on Tuesday, October 7 with a demonstration – 'There Ain't Nothing Like a Dame' – at St Nicholas Community Hall, St Nicholas Road, Barry at 2.15pm. New members welcome.

Charity show

THE St Athan Golf Club (Ladies' section) is holding a fashion show in aid of Marie Curie on Thursday, October 9 at 7pm for 7.30pm.

Clothes by Ushi's of Cowbridge, hair by Fich And Ramous of Cowbridge. Tickets £8 (including a glass of wine and nibbles) are available from the ladies' captain, Jenny Young, on 01446 792942.

Antique fair

COTTRELL PARK Golf Resort (off A48 St Nicholas in the Vale), will host an antique and collectors' fair on Saturday, October 11.

In Tylor's Cabin, there will be a diverse range of antiques and collectables, including fine porcelain, pottery, jewellery, silverware and the 'odd quirky item'. Entrance £1, free car parking.

Green Flag

ON Saturday October 11 at 11.30am, a Green Flag will be raised in Central Park, Barry and Barry Citizens' Action Group invites all those with an interest in the park to celebrate the event.

The Green Flag scheme is designed to recognise and reward standards of excellence in parks and green spaces and their value to the people who use them.

Weavers' workshop

THE next meeting of the Glamorgan branch of Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers will be held on Saturday, October 11 at the Scout Hut, Dinas Powys.

This will be an all-day workshop from 10am – 4pm; the subject will be Drop Spindle and Long Draw workshop facilitated by Andrew Johnson.

Visitors are welcomed. Members £17.50, non-members £20. For further information, email glamorganguildwsd@gmail.com.

Art show

RHOOSE Art Group's exhibition and sale of paintings take splace at the Community Centre, Stewart Road, from 11am-5pm on Saturday, October 11; admission 50p.

Glaucoma talk

THE Princess of Wales Hospital in Bridgend is holding a patient Glaucoma Support Group meeting in the hospital's Eye Unit, at 1.30pm on October 24.

Eryl Williams, of the International Glaucoma Association and Sue Taylor of 'Guide Dogs' will be speaking. Enquiries on 07884 310992.

Litter pick

LLANBLETHIAN Community Group (LCG) have planned a litter pick morning on Saturday, October 18 and volunteers will be supplied with all litter grabs, gloves and black plastic bags on four planned routes around the village, from the church hall at 10am.

Tai Chi training course

BRIDGEND Communities First is organising a Tai chi train the trainer six-week course with Sundragon from October 31 at 10am – 11.30am in the Evergreen Hall, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4AD.

Free of charge to all those living in Bridgend Communities First postcode areas. Call 01656 643518 or email Jeremy.Dimond@bridgend.gov.uk.

Armistice play

BRIDGEND Castle Players, Coytrahen Community Assocation and Llan Lower Community Council are proud to present their Armistice production – *The Prisoner's Friend*, a play by Peter Drake about life in the trenches of the Great War, in Coytrahen Community Centre on November 7 (8pm start). Tickets are £5. All proceeds will be donated to SSAFA and the Royal British Legion.

For further information, visit www.bridgendcastleplayers.org or contact secretary@bridgendcastleplayers.org.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D846.

- **£2,000:** 580424.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £1,500 was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 608769, 198261, 554961, 974227, 682243, 892448, 246742, 835462, 164424, 248520, 127346, 392115, 587561, 388372, 315820, 137811, 781150, 370421, 575039, 267538.
- **£5:** 649158, 640444, 659600, 812206, 646064, 537199, 476306, 703946, 608840, 948824, 814434, 868133, 703362, 823474, 408260, 254364, 390380, 821186, 859694, 876066, 186851, 615624, 422943, 318067, 617893, 782485, 356125, 470271, 864433, 525225, 548746, 902687, 214058, 413068, 957123, 483487, 510415, 741014, 127433, 305054, 191532, 501060, 347926, 480572, 326454, 339268, 419770, 761423, 177903, 711689, 311405, 190663, 789925, 121381, 216188, 387841, 485426, 893, 1832, 357.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

CRONENBERG'S MAP OFFERS BOTH SATIRE AND WEIRDNESS

by GARETH JAMIESON
Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

DIRECTOR David Cronenberg's filmography has been littered with movies that have taken a skewed look at the world, the likes of *Scanners, Videodrome* and the ubiquitous *Crash* all filtered through Cronenberg's own particular point of view.

While he had taken a turn for the more straightforward with the *A History of Violence, Eastern Promises* and *A Dangerous Method, Cosmopolis* saw him revert to type, and his latest, *Maps To The Stars*, comes from a similar place.

Taking a satirical look at Hollywood, it stars Mia Wasikowska as Agatha, a mysterious girl who lands a job working for actress Havana Segrand (Julianne Moore), whose desperation to land the role in a remake of a film her dead mother starred in is all consuming.

It also tells the story of young star Benjie (Evan Bird), whose career seems to be spiralling out of control, much to the chagrin of his parents (John Cusack and Olivia Williams); but are all these lives connected in some way?...

Hollywood and the satirisation of it is a tricky thing to handle; play it too broadly and you lack any bite or snap, play it too tightly and you'll find the comedy whizzing over the audience's heads.

Maps To The Stars plays it just right, though any casual filmgoers who are intrigued enough to tackle David Cronenberg's latest fever dream may find themselves a little lost, with the narrative itself loose and freeform enough to perhaps disengage some from the story it's trying to tell.

Writer Bruce Wagner has obviously spent plenty of time around the filmmaking machine, his script lampooning remakes, safe child-friendly comedies populated by drug-crazed stars, the diva demands of the rich and famous, and the general sense of pomposity you can't help but feel Hollywood and its denizens can become cocooned in.

Yet, rather than aim for straight-ahead satire, he lumps in more – from the weight of family secrets either told or untold, to the lengths some will go to achieve their dreams and ambitions and even darker avenues – and this is where Wagner finds the perfect director in David Cronenberg.

Never a man to make an easy film, even his more straightforward efforts have been leavened with some off-kilter mystery and madness, the director takes in everything Wagner offers him and savours it.

The film has the woozy feel that films set in Los Angeles tend to have by default, but as ever Cronenberg's lens sees more than just what's on the surface.

Whether it's Wasikowska dancing absent mindedly, a seemingly innocuous conversation between an actress who got the role and the one who didn't, or visitations from beyond the grave – the camera is always probing beneath the surface, questioning and teasing.

There is a truly breathtaking performance from Julianne Moore as the actress whose career seems to be slowly slipping away, only to be offered the redemption of the role played once by her mother – Moore playing the role with no concession to vanity and delivering a turn that is one of her best – while Mia Wasikowska dials up the 'kooky' as the mysterious Agatha but with much more going on below the surface.

John Cusack relishes a role he can get his teeth into as a self-help guru, while Evan Bird's Bieber-esque starlet shows substance and empathy as the have-it-all actor finds himself slipping slowly off the rails.

There's even a small turn from Cronenberg's seeming latest muse, Robert Pattinson, which shows he's certainly put his schlocky vampire routine to bed once and for all.

Certainly, the odd levels are dialled up to a very high number indeed, but the story itself plays out a little predictably, with only the occasional curveball – while anyone hoping for some real resolution will be a little disappointed. But, as a slice of slightly bonkers satire, *Maps To The Stars* certainly offers an interesting route.

VERDICT: A sharp, peculiar satire that may be a little too specific for some, *Maps To The Stars* is nevertheless an intriguing viewing experience. A top cast work hard with the material, in particular Julianne Moore's sensational turn, and Bruce Wagner's script is serviced with aplomb by David Cronenberg's offbeat direction. *Enjoyable*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Mulholland Drive* (2001), *The Player* (1992).

Sad Seren looking for someone she can trust

The GEM has joined forces with the Dogs Trust to find suitable homes for inmates at the Bridgend rehoming centre.

SEREN is a four-year-old crossbreed who has had a complicated life, having been in several different homes – so she can struggle with new situations – but once settled she is a friendly dog who really loves people.

She does enjoy the company of other dogs, but would prefer to be the only dog in the home. Seren loves her toys and treats, and is very affectionate.

She is looking for a home for life where her trust won't be broken again. She can live with older children, is housetrained, and can be left alone for a few hours.

If you can offer Seren a home, please call us on 01656 725219 or pop into Dogs Trust Bridgend.

Linda Feagan
(Supporter Relations Officer, Dogs Trust Bridgend)

Seren.

SNAKES KEEP ROCK AND ROLL ALIVE

Album review by Ashley Cox

KISS bassist Gene Simmons recently announced to the world that "rock and roll is dead". Fortunately, Barry-based four-piece Denim Snakes did not receive the memo.

Springing to life with an infectiously-zestful single 'The Guard', their eponymous debut album (released on October 11) is a mere heartbeat over 28 minutes in length; but its thrills are in no short supply.

With the relentless 'Don't You Want Me?' most reminiscent of frontman Russell Toomey's past material, new bandmates Jake Ellis-Scott, Mattise Clarke and Tom Hall add a fresh buoyancy to the mix; something reflected across the 10 tracks.

The album soars in its softer moments, with the cruising melancholy of '21' revealing a tenderly-wistful side of the band and introspective standout 'It'll Be Alright' exploring themes of vulnerability and self-doubt; before drawing its defiant conclusions.

More than anything else though, 'Denim Snakes' is a ferociously feel-good rock record; reinforced by the potent one-two punch of 'Party Hard' (an anthemic romp of a hit single, if bands still enjoyed hit singles) and further highlight 'The Runaways', which sees Toomey's distorted verse mutate into the purest of pop-rock choruses.

With a back catalogue that would be the envy of many, 'Denim Snakes' confirms that former My Red Cell musician Toomey retains the talent, both as songwriter and performer, to make a mark on his genre once more.

'Denim Snakes' by Denim Snakes is released on October 11, available via Amazon, iTunes and streaming on Spotify, as well as in CD format from various stockists.

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Ryder Cup fun at St Athan Golf Club!

LAST weekend saw the Combined Services come head-to-head with the Civilians (Civvies) in their annual Elwyn Parry Ryder Cup challenge at St Athan Golf Club.

The competition is now in its 22nd year and is the culmination of the season's matches in which 24 golfers have managed to qualify for the event, and another eight players are captains' wild cards.

On Friday, September 26, the Combined Services' captain Taff Edwards, Civilian captain Roger Davidge, players and spectators gathered in the clubhouse for the much awaited draw, all of the players eager to see who they would be playing, first in the morning foursomes and then in the afternoon singles, a point being awarded for each game.

The Civvies were hoping to retain their title but on paper it appeared that the final result could go in favour of either team.

The following day at exactly 8am, with jokes, dazzling golfing attire and light-hearted banter abundant, the first match teed off; Gerry Turnbull had the honour of the opening drive in front of a baying Civilian team.

Nerves remained steady and both Gerry and his playing partner Dutch Holland were relieved to watch as the ball soared away down the first fairway – game on!

Lunchtime saw the score standing at 5½ - 2½ to the Civvies, so there was all to play for in the afternoon.

The players soon settled into their games and concentrated on the task in hand. It was nip and tuck throughout the majority of the 16 singles matches, producing some unforeseen results!

The Combined Services fought valiantly, but the wins they secured in their individual games were not enough to close down the deficit and they conceded defeat graciously, the final score 13-11 to their opponents.

At the evening presentation and to rapturous applause, Elwyn Parry (to whom the competition is dedicated) presented the whiskey-loaded Ryder Cup trophy to the triumphant Civvies; the losing competitors could only watch as it slowly made its way around the victors, woe betide if any loser actually touched the trophy!

With one formality completed it was straight onto the next tradition and without doubt the most awaited; Taff, as losing captain, challenging the winning captain Roger to a 2015 re-match with the 'gauntlet across the face'.

Once composure had been restored Roger accepted the challenge on behalf of the Civvies and also took the opportunity to commiserate with and thank the Combined Services team for their endeavour and sportsmanship throughout the day.

Photographs of the day along with the challenge video are available to view on facebook 'Stathan Golfclub'.

St Athan Golf Club is proud of its history. It is a members' club, run by the members, and they warmly welcome new players.

For more information please contact the club manager on 01446 751043.

CM

Heather and Chloe land Welsh call-up

CONGRATULATIONS to Heather Bowkett and Chloe Holehouse who have been selected for the Cardiff & Vale County under-16s netball squad for the forthcoming season.

Heather and Chloe, who play for Cowbridge Allstars and Llantwit Major School, were selected following two trial sessions that involved over 80 players from the region.

NB

Bridge results

PENLLYN Bridge Club results for September were as follows:

Thursday, September 4 (20 pairs) - 1st David & Marion Stephenson 71.97%, 2nd John Lord & Joe Ilsley 64.39%, 3rd Judith & Colin Nunn 57.07%.

Thursday, September 11 (19 pairs) - 1st John Lord & Joe Ilsley 63.07%, 2nd David & Marion Stephenson 62.5%, 3rd Joyce Hollway & Ian Dunglinson 60.31%.

Thursday, September 18 (20 pairs) - 1st Dot Williams & Allan Evans 61.87%, 2nd Glenda Roberts & Mary Wallis 61.62%, 3rd Judith & Colin Nunn 61.11%.

Thursday, September 25 (17 pairs), Robert Brown Cup - 1st Helen & Mike Ruttley 67.86%, 2nd Judith & Colin Nunn 58.57%, 3rd Gill Harding & Rita Williams 57.47%.

CN

Sun is back at Llandow Kart Club!

THE sun was back in September as Llandow Kart Club's championship took another step towards its denouement with eight classes in action at round eight.

The massed ranks of cadets kicked things off, with IAME rivals Shay Keough and Max Fenlon battling it out at the front of the field. Fenlon claimed heat one but, from there on in, it was Keough at the top of the timesheets, claiming the remaining heats and the final as Fenlon found he had Connor Kearney for company.

The Honda runners proved well-matched with four different winners in as many races. Rissington interloper Jensen Fennymore led brother Morgan across the line in a family 1-2 in the opening heat, before Llandow locals Oscar and Stuart Ferguson repeated the feat in race two.

George Alp-Williams then took top spot in the final qualifier, but it was the driver behind him in that race who went on to take the win when it mattered most, as Louis Harvey claimed final victory from Alp-Williams and Oscar Ferguson.

There was a familiar story in Junior Honda as Celtic champion Kristian Prosser claimed a clean sweep of all four races. Season-long rival Patrick Hill provided the closest opposition in three of the four, including the final, but had no answer to Prosser on this occasion. Ben Cutler took runners-up honours in heat one, but it was Jack Bligh who again came through to complete the podium in the main event.

Junior and Mini Max shared the track once again, and it was the usual story out front with Rob Ellis and Ethan Ling claiming top spot in the final. Neither could claim total dominance, however, with Ellis missing out in heat three – which was won by Tom Croydon from David Spiller – and Ling having to give best to Riley Phillips in each of the qualifying races. Croydon and Phillips duly claimed runners-up honours in their respective classes, with Spiller and Jem Hempworth filling the top three.

Ryan Edwards returned to dominate in Junior TKM, although Tom Rawlings ensured there was no clean sweep by winning the opening race. Edwards didn't have things his own way thereafter either, with August winner Alex Rees twice running him close, including missing out by less than a second in the final. Yousuf Ashraf finished third in the main race, with Sam Johns and Rawlings taking top five positions.

Senior Honda started in familiar fashion with Danny Griffiths winning the opening heats, but veteran Chris Lipscomb stepped up to prevent another unbeaten weekend for the number 45.

Having run Griffiths close in race one, the Welsh champion turned the tables to claim heat three by just 0.028secs and then ran out a slightly more comfortable winner in the final, edging Griffiths by 1.67secs. Monty Gorringe harried the points leader to the line in third place, just as he had in the third heat.

Dilip Singh followed up last month's success by winning the opening heat in Senior Rotax but, from that point on, the meeting was all about Sam Morgan and Zach Jones. The pair finished 1-2 in the remaining three races, with Morgan coming out on top by a couple of tenths in the final, as Singh completed the podium.

Michael Bacchetta was the other driver to feature in the top three on the day, chasing Morgan and Jones home in heat three.

The ninth and penultimate round of the 2014 Llandow club championship takes place at South Wales Karting Centre on Sunday, October 19.

RESULTS

CADET HONDA - 1. Louis Harvey (Shark), 2. George Alp-Williams (Project One), 3. Oscar Ferguson (Project One); CADET IAME - 1. Shay Keough (Zip), 2. Max Fenlon (RK/Birel), 3. Connor Kearney (Zip).

JUNIOR HONDA - 1. Kristian Prosser (7Kart), 2. Patrick Hill (Wright), 3. Jack Bligh (7Kart); JUNIOR TKM - 1. Ryan Edwards (Tonykart), 2. Alex Rees (Jade), 3. Yousuf Ashraf (Jade); JUNIOR ROTAX - 1. Rob Ellis (Kosmic), 2. Tom Croydon (Gillard), 3. David Spiller (Alonso).

MINI MAX - 1. Ethan Ling (CRG), 2. Riley Phillips (Kosmic), 3. Jem Hempworth (CRG); SENIOR HONDA - 1. Chris Lipscomb (7Kart), 2. Danny Griffiths (MS), 3. Monty Gorringe (7Kart).

SENIOR ROTAX - 1. Sam Morgan (CRG), 2. Zach Jones (CRG), 3. Dilip Singh (CRG). BEST NOVICE: Oliver Sadd (Minimax); DRIVER OF THE DAY: Sam Morgan (Senior Rotax).

CRAIG LLEWELLYN

Commemorating the centenary of the First World War

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Peter Kollwitz – one of the innocents...

by GAVIN DAVIES

IN July 1914, 17-year-old Peter Kollwitz from Berlin, was on holiday in Norway with some friends and when they heard that Germany was at war, they got the train from Bergen to Oslo to return home immediately.

Vladslo German cemetery.

They were going to join up to defend their country and like many young men all over Europe they were "talking excitedly about their new identity as fighters, lit up by sensuality and the thrill of imagined battle," even if it was rather embarrassing to meet friendly British and French tourists on the train.

Peter's father, Karl, a doctor who worked in a poor quarter of Berlin and his mother Kathe, an artist, both had left wing and pacifist views, were against the war, and did not want Peter and his elder brother Hans to enlist.

Kathe wrote in her diary: *"The idea of mere boys going into battle strikes me as senseless. It is all so pointless, so insane…"*.

Finally believing that Germany was actually threatened, they reluctantly agreed and by mid-August the boys were in the army.

Hans and Peter were not alone. Although the German army was conscripted in peacetime, some of the young men who were available were not called up. Many of these, with others like Peter who had not reached call-up age, now wanted to fight for their country for patriotic reasons – because it seemed an exciting thing to do, because their friends were going, or because authority figures like schoolmasters put pressure on youngsters to enlist.

Erich Maria Remarque's famous book (and film) *All Quiet on the Western Front* about the Great War includes such scenes.

None of these young men had any military training. Equipped in the regimental depots they started their military life, like all recruits in all nations, on the drill square.

During August and September, their training continued and during September they were formed into 12 new infantry divisions organised in six corps, perhaps 150,000 men in all.

Germany had planned to defeat France by mid-September by launching about a million men in an enormous 'right hook' through Belgium. It nearly worked, but in early September, the German advance was halted at the River Marne and the Germans were pushed back a few miles and dug in on the high ground north of the River Aisne. From Soissons to the Swiss frontier, both sides entrenched.

Germany's great gamble on a quick victory had failed. Or had it? The 140-mile gap between Soissons and the Channel coast was almost unguarded. Eight of the new divisions were sent west to break through the Allied lines near Ypres, turn the Allied flank, capture Calais and the Channel Ports.

On October 12, Peter Kollwitz, now serving in No 4 Company of the 207th Reserve Infantry Regiment one of the four in the 44th Reserve Division which was itself part of the XXth Reserve Corps said goodbye to his family.

Meanwhile, the British Expeditionary Force and French troops had moved north into Belgium and by October were holding Ypres. To the north, the Belgian army was dug in along the line of the canal and railway to the coast. The stage was set for another great clash of arms.

The 207th Regiment attacked the Belgian-held line at Esen, near Dicksmuide, about half way between Ypres and the coast.

A German officer, Rudolf Binding, wrote in his diary: "… *these young fellows we have, only just trained, are too helpless, particularly when the officers have been killed. Our light infantry battalion, almost all Marburg students … have suffered terribly from shellfire. In the next division, just such young souls, the intellectual flower of Germany, went singing into an attack on Langemarck, just as vain and just as costly."*

The Grieving Parents statues.

Fighting the same new formations around Ypres a platoon of the Gordon Highlanders, perhaps 40 men, counted 240 German dead on its front on one day.

The Germans named these battles 'The Kindermord von Ypern' – 'The Massacre of the Innocents of Ypres' – doubtless the biblical reference is deliberate.

Perhaps those who have been in the army might consider how they would have felt being put into battle after only seven or eight weeks training.

On October 23, Peter Kollwitz was killed. His mother, Kathe Kollwitz, learned of his death on the 30th. "*Your pretty shawl will no longer be able to warm our boy,*" was the touching way she broke the news to a close friend. To another friend she admitted: "*There is in our lives a wound which will never heal. Nor should it.*"

Kathe, a well known artist and sculptor, devised the idea of a memorial, but it was not until much later that she produced a design which satisfied her.

The pair of statues – The Parents – usually referred to as – 'The Grieving Parents' – modelled on herself and her husband were completed in April 1931. *"In the autumn – Peter – I shall bring it to you,"* she wrote in her diary.

They were dedicated in 1932, about the same time as the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing on the Somme. They were originally placed in Friedhof Roggeveld, the military cemetery where Peter was buried, but in 1956 it was merged with the German military cemetery at Vladslo.

Kathe's statues now stand at the back of the cemetery, with the male figure looking at the stone bearing Peter's name a few yards away. Peter's original grave cross is at the In Flanders Fields Museum in Ypres.

Kathe was only just in time. The Nazis were on the rise and her work was seen as degenerate. She and her husband Karl were nearly sent to a concentration camp and in 1940 Karl died.

Kathe's grandson, named Peter after his uncle, was killed in 1942 at Stalingrad. Her home and all her possessions were destroyed by British bombing in 1943. Kathe herself died on April 22, 1945. The statues commemorating her dead son are a major part of her legacy to us and a reminder of the horrors war brings.

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BARRY STARS CELEBRATE AS...

Cupid fires arrow at local couple in national skittles championships!

EVEN though the Barry Stars ladies skittles team didn't come away with any trophies at the Butcombe British Championships this year, there was plenty to celebrate as one of their team, Sasha Morgan became engaged to Scott Evans at the competition, amid congratulations from all the team.

The women's team who play out of the Sea View Club, reached the quarter finals last year at their first attempt.

However, this year they were up against former champions the Sinners from Exeter and exited gracefully after the first round. First round losers automatically enter the women's Plate competition and the team valiantly reached the semi-finals, before going out to St John's Rollers from Weston Super Mare.

Organiser of the championships, Rachel Bourke from the Shoot Out Club, was thrilled to hear the romantic news. "Torquay is a very romantic place with its lovely bay and palm trees so we are thrilled to hear that its magic has worked for Scott and Sasha. We all send them our very best wishes and congratulations!"

This year's Butcombe British Skittles Championships, which began in April with a series of leagues and playoffs, involved nearly 150 teams from all over the UK of which 64 qualified for Saturday's finals.

It is now being registered as the biggest skittles tournament in the world, with Guinness World Records.

By the time the final ball was been thrown, 1,696 people had taken part in 472 matches over much of the country. More than a quarter of a million skittles were stuck up and then knocked down by over 130,000 balls.

By the time the winners reached the podium, the competitors had played the equivalent of nearly 30 days worth of skittles.

"We know of no other skittles competition in the world that involves so many people," said Rachel. "So a record will definitely be set and we hope confirmed soon by Guinness."

Jane Blanchard

Antique and collectors' fair

Cottrell Park golf resort (off the A48 at St Nicholas in the Vale) will again host an antique and collectors' fair on Saturday, October 11, in Tylor's Cabin.

A diverse range of antiques and collectables includes fine porcelain, pottery, jewellery, silverware and the 'odd quirky item'.

Refreshments available to purchase from 'The Clubhouse'; entrance £1; free car parking.

Daylight robbery

POLICE APPEAL

POLICE have appealed for help to trace "brazen" youths who stole a gold necklace from a woman in Sea View Terrace, Barry, on Saturday, July 12 around 4.30pm, during the Cadstock event.

The woman was walking from St Oswald's Road on to Sea View Terrace, when she was approached by youths who asked for directions to Tesco.

As she started to direct them, she felt someone grab at her necklace.

The youths then made off in the direction of Church Road. The woman was not injured.

They are described as white, aged 13-16 years of age. Sergeant Mark Jones said: "These offenders carried out a brazen theft during daylight in full view of a busy street.

"I am certain there would have been a number of people around Sea View Terrace at this time and we are asking them to call us if they witnessed the crime taking place, or saw the group of youths before or after the burglary happened".

Anyone with information is asked to call South Wales Police on 101 quoting reference number 1400250700.

Alternatively, Crimestoppers free and anonymously on 0800 555 111.

Cosmeston thefts

LANTERNS, wooden bowls and a cast iron cauldron were among items stolen by thieves at Cosmeston Medieval Village over the past week.

Smaller items were believed to have been taken during the village's opening times, but the theft of the cauldron was believed to have occurred overnight on Saturday, September 20.

PS Julie Madoc reported: "The thieves cut off padlocks from the gate to gain entry to the site. Although the items are not of great monetary value, their value to the medieval village is great".

Police are appealing for anyone who has information to contact them on 101, quoting reference number 1400353670.

Apprentices will help rebuild historic Welsh palace at St Fagans

TWO new apprentice stonemasons have been hired by Wales's national open air museum to help recreate one of the nation's lost historic palaces.

ABOVE; Matthew Roberts (left) and Brett Burnell, who have joined the historic buildings unit at St Fagans National History Museum, Cardiff as apprentice stonemasons.

Matthew Roberts from Maesteg and Brett Burnell from Barry have joined the historic buildings unit at St Fagans National History Museum, Cardiff as apprentice stonemasons, their posts funded by players of People's Postcode Lottery for three years.

They are currently both enjoying their work on the re-construction of two new buildings at St Fagans, based on archaeology found at Llys Rhosyr – one of the medieval courts of the Princes of Gwynedd on Anglesey.

The experimental archaeology project forms part of a major redevelopment of St Fagans funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Welsh Government.

Two buildings, including the main hall wall, will be built at St Fagans. With its nine metre high stone walls and huge thatched timber roof, the building of the hall will be testament to the skills of the museum's historic buildings unit.

Matthew "can't wait" to start his formal training in NVQ level 2 in stonemasonry. He had followed his father's footsteps in bricklaying, but at the age of 23 has chosen a new career in stonemasonry.

Brett describes his new post as the "perfect job" and is looking forward to starting a career in stonemasonry. He has worked in construction for over 10 years and since working as a labourer for a stonemasonry workshop, he has wanted to be a stonemason.

Both Matthew and Brett will also study for an NVQ level 2 at Bath College; it is hoped they will progress and achieve a NVQ level 3 in stonemasonry and in Heritage Skills.

Janet Wilding Head of the Historic Buildings Unit said:

"We are very grateful that players of People's Postcode Lottery are able to support these posts and enable two apprentices to be trained in traditional skills at St Fagans.

"The funding will allow a new generation of craftspeople to learn traditional building skills and help us to fulfil one of the most exciting building projects in the museum's history."

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Y FRO GYMRAEG – YN FYW AC YN FFYNNU

A WELCOME FOR EVERYONE IN WELSH MEDIUM EDUCATION

Gwaun y Nant school gains prestigious ICT Mark Award

CHILDREN at Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant in Barry are at the forefront of using technology to enhance their work, and that's official!

Following an extensive external assessment the school has been awarded the prestigious ICT Mark.

The award recognises the school's success in developing the strategic use of technology in both administration and across the curriculum. Parents will have proof that their children are attending a school at the forefront of modern technology.

Headteacher Rhydian Lloyd commented: "On behalf of Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant, I am delighted to be awarded the ICT Mark. It recognises our positive approach to the use of technology and the benefits it is bringing to our children.

"We believe that the technology can be used in every aspect of learning and that it is essential our children are equipped for the modern world."

The lead member of staff, teacher Guto Rhys, involved in ensuring the school was ready for the ICT Mark assessment, added:"I am really pleased that the presentation of this award shows recognition of the excellent work that is taking place at Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant. Applying for the award really brought into focus the ICT work that we are doing each and every day. All the children and staff deserve credit for this achievement."

Mark Chambers, CEO of Naace, the professional association for advancing education through technology, said: "Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant thoroughly deserves the accolade of an ICT Mark accreditation. They clearly demonstrate how important it is to take a whole school approach to using technology in schools. We look forward to working with Gwaun y Nant to demonstrate how technology can have a substantial impact on learner outcomes in the future."

Marc Safon TGCh i Gwaun y Nant

MAE plant Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant ar flaen y gad wrth ddefnyddio technoleg i ehangu eu gwaith, ac mae hynny'n swyddogol!

Ar ôl asesiad allanol drwyadl derbyniodd yr ysgol y marc safon clodfawr.

Mae'r wobr yn cadarnhau llwyddiant yr ysgol wrth ddatblygu strategaeth bendant o ddefnyddio technoleg wrth weinyddu ac ar draws y cwricwlwm. Mae'n brawf i rieni fod eu plant yn mynychu ysgol sy'n flaengar gyda thechnoleg fodern.

Dywedodd y pennaeth Rhydian Lloyd: "Rwy'n hynod o falch i dderbyn y Marc Safon TGCh ar ran Ysgol Gwaun y Nant. Mae'n cydnabod ein agwedd bositif at ddefnyddio technoleg a'r buddiannau a ddaw i'n plant yn sgîl hynny. Credwn fod modd defnyddio technoleg ym mhob agwedd o ddysgu a'i fod yn hanfodol fod gan ein disgyblion sgiliau cyfrifiadurol ar gyfer y byd modern.

Ychwanegodd Guto Rhys, yr athro fu'n arwain y paratoi ar gyfer yr asesiad: "Mae'r marc safon hwn yn dangos y gwaith ardderchog sy'n digwydd yma yn Ysgol Gwaun y Nant. Roedd ymgeisu am y wobr yn gyfle i ffocysu ar y gwaith techgwyb y gwnawn o ddydd i ddydd. Mae'r holl ddisgyblion a staff yn haeddu clod am y wobr."

Meddai Mark Chambers, prif weithredwr Naace, y gymdeithas broffesiynol dros arwain addysg drwy thechnoleg: "Mae Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun y Nant yn llawn haeddu'r marc safon yma. Mae'n dangos pa mor bwysig ydyw i gael agwedd bositif wrth ddefnyddio technoleg ar draws yr ysgol gyfan. Disgwyliwn ymlaen at weithio gyda Gwaun y Nant i ddangos sut y gall technoleg gael dylanwad aruthrol ar ganlyniadau dysgu yn y dyfodol."

PARENT POWER

Playtime fun at Ysgol Sant Baruc, Barry. Photograph courtesy of Colorfoto, Photography and Marketing Specialists.

"THE wider school community is vitally important to us in St Baruc," says headteacher Rhian Andrew. "We are particularly fortunate to have many great parents who are very supportive and make a huge effort to get involved in school life. I really feel that we are working together as a team for the benefit of our children.

"Welcoming parents into school is a priority for us. The vast majority of parents in Barry will not be Welsh speakers – it's the reality of the community in which we live – but we want every family to feel included and a part of school life. Our school PTA is very active and are great fundraisers. Recently as a school we raised £2,000 for the NSPCC – on top of our normal school fundraising. I never cease to be amazed."

Mrs Andrew continues: "One important way in which parents can become more involved with school life is though our 1:1 reading programme. Parents volunteer to come in to help children with their reading, in both English and Welsh.

"It's very heartening to see parents who are Welsh learners come in to help pupils with their Welsh reading. It's a great win-win situation.We hold a presentation ceremony to celebrate our reading programme. This helps raise the profile of the initiative and emphasises the positive results we see each year."

Parent and a former pupil of Welsh medium education who had not spoken the language since school Louise Vann said: "It's a pleasure to be part of St Baruc's reading programme. I've been doing it for 3 years and enjoy spending quality time with pupils to help them improve their reading and general literacy skills. It's a boost for my own Welsh too as I listen and help pupils with their Welsh reading. It's very rewarding."

Canmol rhieni ysbrydoledig

"MAE cymuned ehangach yr ysgol yn hynod bwysig i ni yn Sant Baruc," dywedodd y pennaeth, Rhian Andrew. "Rydyn yn ffodus iawn i gael nifer fawr o rieni sy'n gefnogol tu hwnt ac sy'n gwneud ymdrech arbennig i fod yn rhan o fywyd yr ysgol. Rwy'n teimlo ein bod ni'n gweithio ar y cyd fel tîm er budd ein plant.

"Mae estyn croeso i rieni i mewn i'r ysgol yn flaenoriaeth i ni. Mae'r rhan fwyaf o rieni'r Barri yn bobl ddi-gymraeg - dyna realiti'r sefyllfa yma - ond rydyn eisiau i bob teulu i deimlo'n rhan o fywyd yr ysgol.

"Mae Cymdeithas Rhieni Athrawon yr ysgol yn weithgar iawn. Yn ddiweddar fel ysgol mi wnaethon gasglu £2,000 er budd yr NSPCC – a hynny ar ben ein hymgyrchu arferol. Mae'n wych!"

Ychwanegodd Mrs Andrew: "Un ffordd bwysig gall rhieni ddod yn rhan o fywyd yr ysgol yw drwy ein rhaglen ddarllen 1:1. Mae gwirfoddolwyr yn dod mewn i helpu plant gyda'u darllen yn Gymraeg ac yn Saesneg. Mae'n hyfryd gweld dysgwyr yn cynorthwyo gyda'r darllen Cymraeg. Mae pawb ar eu hennill. Rydyn yn cynnal seremoni wobrwyo pob blwyddyn i ddathlu ein rhaglen ddarllen. Mae hyn yn codi proffil yr ymgyrch ac yn gyfle i danlinelli y canlyniadau calonogol."

Meddai Louise Vann, rhiant a chyn-ddisgybl addysg Gymraeg sydd heb ddefnyddio'i Chymraeg ers dyddiau ysgol: "Mae'n bleser i fod yn rhan o raglen ddarllen Sant Baruc. Dwi wedi bod yn helpu ers tair blynedd a dwi'n mwynhau treulio amser gyda'r disgyblion i wella eu darllen. Mae'n hwb i fy Nghymraeg i hefyd."

WELSH EDUCATION WORKS...

MENNA ROBERTS, headteacher of Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg in Barry is particularly proud of the fact that eight members of her staff are themselves former pupils of Welsh schools in the Vale.

"This just shows that Welsh education works doesn't it?" she said. "And it underlines the fact that being able to speak Welsh is a win-win situation!"

The former pupils of Ysgol Sant Ffransis, Ysgol Sant Baruc, Ysgol Sant Curig and Ysgol Pen y Garth are: Jo Bolton, Anna Mepham Brown, Menna Gibbon, Bethan John, Bethan Lye, Tomos Rogers, Rebecca Townsend Ryan and Rhian Shugar.

Anna Mepham Brown, administrative officer in Ysgol Nant Talwg, said: "When I started school in Sant Ffransis, many moons ago, I didn't realise that my parents had made a life changing decision! None of my family spoke Welsh. Have I got any regrets? Definitely not! Today I enjoy being able to speak Welsh in my job and in some way I feel that I'm putting something back."

Rebecca Townsend Ryan who is a Learning Support Assistant in the school told us: "I love being able to speak two languages and I'm really proud of the fact that I'm a fluent Welsh speaker. My parents don't speak Welsh but Welsh is really important to me and it's even helped me get a job! "

Welsh education in the Vale is clearly a success... and the story continues!

Menna Roberts (furthest right) with eight members of staff who are former pupils of Welsh schools in the Vale at Ysgol Nant Talwg.

Y Gymraeg yn Gweithio yn y Fro

MAE MENNA ROBERTS, pennaeth Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg yn Y Barri, yn falch dros ben fod wyth o'i staff yn gyn-ddisgyblion ysgolion Cymraeg y Fro.

"Mae'n dangos fod addysg Gymraeg yn gweithio," meddai. "Ac yn fwy na dim, mae'n tanlinellu'r ffaith fod siarad Cymraeg yn talu ar ei ganfed."

Cyn-ddisgyblion ysgolion Sant Ffransis, Sant Baruc, Sant Curig a Phen-y-Garth yw: Jo Bolton, Anna Mepham Brown, Menna Gibbon, Bethan John, Bethan Lye, Tomos Rogers, Rebecca Townsend Ryan a Rhian Shugar.

Dywedodd Anna Mepham Brown, swyddog gweinyddol yr ysgol:"Pan ddechreuais yn Sant Ffransis, blynyddoedd maith yn ôl, wnes i ddim sylweddoli fod fy rhieini wedi gwneud penderfyniad fyddai'n newid fy mywyd! Does neb yn fy nheulu yn siarad Cymraeg. Ydw i'n flin? Dim o gwbwl! Heddiw dwi'n hapus iawn yn siarad Cymraeg yn fy swydd ac mewn ffordd dwi'n teimlo fy mod yn rhoi rhywbeth yn ôl."

Ychwanegodd Rebecca Townsend Ryan sy'n gynorthwyydd dosbarth: "Dwi'n dwli siarad dwy iaith ac yn falch fy mod yn siarad Cymraeg yn rhugl. Dyw fy rhieni ddim yn siarad Cymraeg ond mae'n bwysig iawn i fi ac fe helpodd fi i gael swydd hefyd!"

Mae addysg Gymraeg yn y Fro yn destun llwyddiant aruthrol....a pharhau mae'r stori!

GEM NOTE

Last week's contact list for Welsh schools included an incorrect number for Ysgol Dewi Sant. The correct number is 01446 709595.

Entering the Dragon's Den...

PUPILS from Ysgol Iolo Morganwg in Cowbridge get a chance to taste entrepreneurship through participating in the annual Dragon's Den initiative.

Based on the popular BBC television series, year five and six pupils are tasked with coming up with a business idea, developing the concept before pitching it to a panel of local 'dragons'. They are then quizzed by the panel, who are just as probing, though considerably less ferocious, than their TV counterparts.

If successful, the pupils are advanced the requested funds and sell their product or service at the school summer fair, with all profits donated to the PTA.

Den y Dreigiau

PROFI mentergarwch yw un o pamcanion Den y Dreigiau sy'n cael ei redeg yn flynyddol yn Ysgol Iolo Morganwg yn Y Bont-faen.

Mae'n seiliedig ar raglen deledu boblogaidd y BBC a chaiff disgyblion blwyddyn 5 a 6 y cyfle i arddangos eu sgiliau busnes. Mae'n rhaid iddynt feddwl am syniad busnes, ei ddatblygu a'i gyflwyno i banel o 'ddreigiau'. Cânt eu holi gan y panel, sy'n llawer fwy addfwyn na dreigiau'r teledu wrth gwrs.

Os yn llwyddiannus caiff y disgyblion arian gan yr ysgol i fuddsoddi yn y cynnyrch neu wasanaeth fydd yn cael eu gwerthu yn y Ffair Haf, gyda'r elw yn mynd at y Gymdeithas Rhieni, Athrawon a Ffrindiau (CRAFF).

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When the time comes to leave school...

SHOULD STUDENTS STRIVE FOR UNI?

by ***CHARLOTTE IRONSIDE***

AFTER six long (but what feels like short-lived) stress-free weeks, it's once again time for the younger generation to return to that place they feel like they've never left... school!

For the new and innocent year-7s, it's the start of their next few years of comprehensive school.

For the year-8s, it's the time they become a fully fledged teenager and lose all the enthusiasm they had in year-7, while for year-9s, it's when those dreaded things called hormones kick in; year-10s start their GCSEs and realise how much easier they had it in years 7, 8, and 9; and year-11s begin their potentially last year of school and soon start to drown in their never-ending pile of coursework, homework, and revision.

For those who decide to come back, the year-12s start their first year of A-Levels and realise what all their now year-13 friends on Facebook were on about when they began complaining about how hard A-Levels were.

As for year-13 students, what does the first day of their last year in school mean? That they will face leaving their second home? That they are going to have to struggle through another year of A-Levels?

That they will finally be 18 and get to buy alcohol whenever they want? Or that they are suddenly becoming responsible mature adults? (Well sort of...)

None of these things, as a matter of fact. The first thing that will soon be drilled into year-13s' heads is UCAS.

For those of you who don't know, UCAS is the most efficient way to apply to university.

Within a few pushes of a button, students can apply to their five choice universities, as well as be told if they have been accepted or not.

Schools across the country will now be stressing to their pupils the importance of them writing their personal statement and getting it sent off; however, past year-13 pupils and teachers will understand the difficulty of writing a personal statement.

How hard it is to sum yourself up as the perfect candidate in 4,000 characters. The difficulty of trying to associate five different universities with five different courses in one personal statement - it's hard. Extremely hard.

Only to then have to wait an agonising few months to see if they have been offered a place.

But is it all worth it?

So let's presume, you've gone through the torture of writing your personal statement. You've been accepted into a university full-time, you've had your three-year course, obtained your degree and have now left uni... *what next?*

Get a job? Not as easy as it sounds. Getting any form of a job now could be argued as reasonably hard, whether you have a degree or not. So it could be said that you spend three years of your life working your backside off for nothing!

Then what about that huge amount of debt you're now in? £9,000 a year times your three years of studying? Total £27,000! Of course, everyone knows that doesn't have to be paid back if you earn below the average wage, but the hassle and thought of it is enough to drive anyone insane!

Christopher Morgan (18), who is now studying in his first year at Bridgend College, said: "I think uni is pointless. It offers the opportunity to have a better lifestyle, but you need to have first accomplished very specific requirements which not all people may be able to achieve, therefore excluding some people from a brighter future."

He continued: "The same goes for the actual cost of uni. Without support it's nearly impossible for a young learner to pay for uni. Those that can't are again being excluded, and their chance of better opportunities is lost."

Although it can't be said that there are no advantages to uni, there are plenty!

Firstly, despite the decrease in job opportunities, a degree will give you the advantage when it comes to applying. Statistics show graduates earn more than non-graduates, meaning that a graduate will have more of a chance when it comes to employment.

Secondly, the uni life! It's time to move out! Get away from your parents! Live an independent life! Attending university, whether local or not, will give you so much more experience when it comes to living on your own.

The majority of young adults learn more in terms of domestic chores while at uni than at any other time in their life.

Additionally, being given the ability to meet and socialise with new people. Yes, everyone has their 'BFF' from comprehensive school, but developing skills such as meeting new people will also give you a huge head start in life in comparison to people who don't attend uni (not to mention Friday and Saturday nights on the town!).

Henry Bowen (18), who will soon start his first year at Warwick University, claimed: "A good university degree gives you a greater earning potential in your working life."

Furthermore, "university provides a completely unique social environment which isn't replicated anywhere else in life, and gives you the opportunity to make life-long friends while pursuing your academic interests."

Despite all this, couldn't it be suggested that maybe schools forget other options for today's students?

A lot of teachers' focus is placed on university, with a lack of it placed on college and apprenticeships. Shouldn't uni, college, and apprenticeships have an equal amount of attention – as well as an equal amount of information given to pupils regarding them? For a lot of under-18s in today's community it's not easy to make a decision on what they want to do with their lives.

Scarlett Marenghi, (17) who is currently in her last year of A-Levels, says: "There's a lot of pressure from teachers and parents to go to uni. For example, in school all they talk about is applying to university and writing your personal statement; they don't discuss other options such as apprenticeships that well."

She continued: "For some people who know what they want to do at university it's a great idea. But for others, it's just a path of life they choose as it's 'the thing to do', and all they get out of it is a big debt and a degree that might not guarantee them a career."

So is university really an essential in life? Should students really have to go through the hell of getting qualifications, in addition to those they have for no apparent reason?

Would it be better sitting in a classroom learning the foundation of a student's chosen course, or going out to gain as much experience as possible in that field of work?

Should students really strive for university?

• Charlotte Ironside is a student at Brynteg Comprehensive School.

Sully couple's 60 happy years of married bliss!

THE Vale of Glamorgan Mayor and Mayoress paid a surprise visit to a Sully couple recently – and presented them with a basket of flowers.

Dorothy and Joseph Ryan were celebrating their diamond wedding anniversary and their daughter, Alison, had contacted the Mayor's office to arrange the visit. Coun Howard Hamilton said: "It is a wonderful achievement to be celebrating 60 years of marriage and Carol and I are delighted to be able to offer our congratulations to Dorothy and Joseph."

PLAYGROUP RAISES £250 FOR MACMILLAN

KIDDIEWINKLES playgroup at Crossways Methodist Church hosted one of the many Macmillan coffee mornings in Barry last week and raised over £250 for the charity.

Pictured are Rev Pete and Sam Taylor, playgroup manager and leader Jayne Eldritch, Karen, Coun Chris Elmore and Jane Hutt AM.

Working families award for WWH

WALES & West Housing has been named one of the top 30 organisations in the UK for working families.

It is the third year the organisation, which manages almost 10,000 affordable homes across Wales, including 540 in the Vale, with a further 47 in development in the county, has received this recognition from Working Families, a charity which campaigns for better work-life balance.

WWH is one of only two Welsh organisations to make it into the Top 30 Working Families list 2014, with the other being the National Assembly for Wales.

WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT, AND WHERE, IN THE VALE?

Mr Alan Howells – **The Duchy, Church Close, Ogmore By Sea** – Ground floor extension to existing chalet bungalow, revised parking area/landscaping.
Mr Gareth Harvey – **New Brynsion Hall, Court Road, Barry** – Proposed change of use of the chapel hall and adjacent community hall extension into office accommodation.
Dr Frederick James Evans – **Colhugh Villa, Flanders Road, Llantwit Major** – Installation of a sectional timber building.
Recovery Cymru – **232 Holton Road, Barry** – Change of use for flats 1 and 2 from residential flats to community charity and office space. There will be no structural changes to the properties.
Dr David Trotman – **Penarth Pier Pavilion, The Esplanade, Penarth** – The removal of a one storey spiral staircase in the cafe of The Pavilion.
Ashley Barton – **11 Llantwit Major Road, Cowbridge** – New detached dwelling.
Mrs Ruth Lloyd – **20 Barons Close, Llantwit Major** – Proposed new infill dwelling on land adjacent to no 20 Barons Close, Llantwit Major.
Mrs Joan Jones – **37 Coed Mawr, Barry** – Porch extension to front elevation.
Mr C Hawkins – **33 Tair Onen, Cowbridge** – Detached domestic garage to existing dwelling.
Mr Richard Baker – **1 Rogersmoor Close, Penarth** – Proposed works to include the demolition of garage frontage to the left hand side of the property when facing from front. Single storey porch extension to the front of the property. Proposed dormers to the front and rear. Four Velux windows to front of the property. Pyramid rooflight to the rear flat roof and new bi-folding sliding doors.
Mr Lewis Edmunds – **Former Lloyds, 208 Holton Road, Barry** – Conversion of existing shop with two flats over into five flats.
Mr Tim Gould – **8 Cog Road, Sully** – Erection of a single storey orangery extension to the back of a single occupancy residential property in place of an existing conservatory extension.
Prezzo plc – **16 Windsor Road, Penarth** – fascia and projecting sign.
Prezzo plc – **16 Windsor Road, Penarth** – Change of use to Class A3 restaurant, new shopfront and fume extraction ducting together with plant.
Dinas Powys Community Council – **The Parish Hall, Britway Road, Dinas Powys** – Renewal of dilapidated roof covering over rear stage to include the removal of existing roof lights.
Mr Phillip Penny – **The Old Chapel, Llysworney** – Proposed single storey extension garage and utility room.
Mr D Morgan – **6 Badgers Brook Close, Ystradowen** – Proposed extension to provide a ground floor bedroom.
Mr Martin Ham – **152 Port Road East, Barry** – Single storey rear extension and alteration to first floor rear bedroom window to provide french doors.
Ms Dianne Carrieri – **Barn B, Sheepcourt Farm, Bonvilston** – Proposed extension and detached garage.
Mr Allan Evans – **11 Oakfield Road, Barry** – Demolition of side/rear garage to accommodate new single storey side extension, protruding into space of existing garage. Car port to be incorporated as part of the side extension.
Vale of Glamorgan Council – **Penarth Leisure Centre, Cogan, Penarth** – Demolition to floor level and reconstruction of Health Suite.
Mr Neil Carpenter – **Foresters House, Leckwith** – Ground and first floor extensions.
Miller Holdings (Wales) Ltd – **Land adjacent to 3 Ty Uchaf, Penarth** – Construction of garages with one bedroom flat above.
Mr Anthony Simmonite – **Wilcot, Higher End, St Athan** – Proposed dwelling on infill plot.
Mr Peter Hayman – **Lettons House, Lettons Way, Dinas Powys** – Re-submission of application for removal of modified agricultural/rural enterprise occupancy condition imposed on application 2011/0503/FUL in respect of the erection of existing two-storey house.
Mr Michael James Bowman – **5 Mill Close, Dinas Powys** – Erection of a conservatory at the rear of the premises.
Mrs E Davies – **Church Cottage, Aberthin Lane, Aberthin** – Demolition of existing bungalow and construction of four semi-detached single storey dwellings.
Mr Gary Huges – **Rear of 22 Romilly Road, Barry** – Proposed two storey retail unit.
Mr F Carey Jones – **Brooklands Hall, Brook Lane, St Nicholas** – Retention of barn as leisure and amenity building ancillary to main house.
Mr Richard Leonard – **Land adjacent to Evenlode School, Robinswood Crescent, Penarth** – Construction of 1.5 storey dwelling (outline planning permission 2012/00027/OUT).
Mrs Diane Maidment – **7 Pleasant View, Barry** – Addition of a small side extension to an existing detached bungalow to house an en-suite and storage.
Jonathan Cartwright – **Rose Cottage, Westra, Dinas Powys** – Change of use of existing detached studio/store to create one bedroom holiday let.
TJ Davies & Sons – **The Garn Farm, St Hilary** – Installation of a 150kw ground mounted photovoltaic array.
Mr David Bracher – **9 Barons Close, Llantwit Major** – New three-bedroom dwelling as two storey extension to existing dwelling. New two-space driveway for proposed dwelling alongside existing two-space driveway. Large existing garden split equally between both properties.
Mr Ian Bewick – **Premier Foods, No 2 Dock, Atlantic Way, Barry** – Demolition of mill and auxiliary buildings.
Mrs Audrey James – **7 Clos Yr Onnen, Llantwit Major** – Conversion of existing garage into living area.
Mrs Anne Richards – **Swn Y Coed, Corntown** – Proposed single storey extensions.
McDonald's Restaurants Ltd – **McDonald's Restaurant Ltd, Valegate Retail Park, Copthorne Way, Cardiff** – Access alterations including new layout and exterior alterations and extensions.
McDonald's Restaurants Ltd – **McDonald's Restaurant Ltd, Valegate Retail Park, Copthorne Way, Cardiff** – Installation of two freestanding signs and one banner.
Mr Richard Grant – **10 Westward Rise, Barry** – Rear orangery extension with pitched lantern style glazed rooflight.
McDonalds Restaurants Ltd – **McDonald's Restaurant Ltd, Valegate Retail Park, Copthorne Way, Cardiff** – Reconfiguration of existing signage and proposed new signage.
Mrs Claire Lamerton – **Castleton Court, Castleton Road, St Athan** – Installation of a log burning stove.
ESA Treecare – **Sycamore, Sigingstone** – Reduce conifer by 2.5 metres, re-pollard sycamore by approx 4 metres.
Director of Regeneration and Planning, Rhondda Cynon Taf – **Fforch Nest Wind Farm, Glyn Ogwr, Bridgend** – Variation of Condition 14 of appeal decision 2147385 of application 06/1842/10 relating to noise limits.
Mr and Mrs Les Packer – **121 Westbourne Road, Penarth** – Demolition of existing rear single storey conservatory and utility room. Construction of new rear single storey extension and loft conversion with associated extension to side elevation.
BT plc – **Outside 1, The Square, Dinas Powys** – Broadband cabinet.
Mr Paul Wilsher – **63(a), Main Road, Ogmore By Sea** – Continued use of granny flat as self contained bungalow.
Mr Phillip Penny – **The Old Chapel, Llysworney** – Proposed single storey extension garage and utility room.
Edwards Investments – **Clerk to the Justices, Vale of Glamorgan Magistrates Court, Thompson Street, Barry** – Change of use of unit 2 from A1 to A3.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Development that may affect a Conservation Area/ Datblygu a allai effeithio ar Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/01052/PNT
Proposal:/Cynnig: Broadband cabinet
Location:/Lleoliad: Outside 1, The Square, Dinas Powys
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth Dinas Powys

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/01067/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Installation of replacement extraction and ventilation equipment and associated external alterations
Location:/Lleoliad: Tropical Tandoor, 33-34, Windsor Terrace, Penarth
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/01083/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Rear garage with first floor office
Location:/Lleoliad: 13, Windsor Terrace, Penarth
Conservation Area:/ Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Listed Building Consent/Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00974/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: The removal of a one storey spiral staircase in the cafe of The Pavilion
Location:/Lleoliad: Penarth Pier Pavilion, The Esplanade, Penarth
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/01055/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed single storey extension garage and utility room
Location:/Lleoliad: The Old Chapel, Llysworney
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Affecting setting of a Listed Building/ Cais (au) sy'n effeithio ar leoliad Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00869/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Conversion of redundant barns to provide four residential units
Location:/Lleoliad: Barns at West Aberthaw Farm, Aberthaw
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting West Aberthaw Farm, Grade II

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/01022/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed single storey extension garage and utility room
Location:/Lleoliad: The Old Chapel, Llysworney
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting The Old Chapel, Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest / Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00869/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Conversion of redundant barns to provide four residential units
Location:/Lleoliad: Barns at West Aberthaw Farm, Aberthaw

May affect a Public Right of Way/ Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00869/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Conversion of redundant barns to provide four residential units
Location:/Lleoliad: Barns at West Aberthaw Farm, Aberthaw

Departure from Development Plan/ Gwyro o'r Cynllun Datblygu

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00167/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolition of existing buildings, construction of 17 dwellings and associated works.
Location:/Lleoliad: Ardwyn, Pen Y Turnpike Road, Dinas Powys

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/00869/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Conversion of redundant barns to provide four residential units
Location:/Lleoliad: Barns at West Aberthaw Farm, Aberthaw

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2014/01077/OUT
Proposal:/Cynnig: Outline planning application for removal of redundant agricultural buildings and construction of three residential dwellings
Location:/Lleoliad: Pen Onn Farm, Llancarfan

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy **http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/**

Dated / Dyddiedig: 2 October, 2014

M. Goldsworthy
Operational Manager Development & Building Control,
Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

Cowbridge Comprehensive School sports round-up

Year 8 football team.

THE Year 9 B netball team took part in the Cardiff & Vale netball tournament.

There were four pools of teams. Cowbridge came third in their pool which was won by Eastern High and Howells second. Cowbridge drew three games and lost against Eastern High. Cowbridge were then placed in a pool to finish between sixth and 12th position.

Unfortunately Cowbridge didn't fare so well losing three matches and winning two matches. The team included Paige Fox, Imogen Marlor, Alys Bebb, Aisling McCormack Thomas, Mali Howell (c), Sophie Hendy, Catrin Parsons, Megan Hodgson, and Ffion Langston.

Player of the tournament went to Paige Fox for her interceptions made in every game turning the ball over for Cowbridge to attack. A fabulous effort and improvement from Paige.

HOCKEY

The Year 8 hockey team played away to Plasmawr.

This was the first 11-a-side game for Year 8 and it took a little while for the girls to adjust to their new positions and size of the pitch.

They improved their performance as the game progressed, learning to look and pass to free players to put pressure on the other team.

With no goalkeeper, our defence worked very hard. Sarah Wynne stood out clearing several shots at goal and successfully feeding the ball to the midfield players.

Plasmawr scored in the first half and Eve Mordecai scored for us. Unfortunately Plasmawr scored again in the second half so the final score was Plasmawr 2, Cowbridge 1. Well done to all the girls, player of the match was Beth Edwards.

The senior hockey team had their first match of the season against Bro Morgannwg on September 17.

A very even match with plenty of movement and shots at goal from both teams, Sian Smith and Hannah Lee shared the goalkeeping duties for Cowbridge, both saving shots from Bro Morgannwg.

It was lovely to welcome Bethan Richards to the team who has recently joined the school for her A Levels.

The final score was 0-0, well done girls; don't forget make the most of our coaching sessions on Mondays after school.

RUGBY

Cowbridge opened their group qualifying campaign with a disappointing loss to Gower College at the school fields.

Cowbridge were first on the scoresheet 12 minutes in when Gower collapsed a driving maul from an attacking five metre lineout, resulting in the referee awarding a penalty try; this was converted by outside half Callum Bricknell.

Gower responded to this with an excellent try by wing John Escott.

Next to score was Cowbridge scrum half Liam Free, capitalising from an attacking five metre scrum where Cowbridge were awarded a penalty for a Gower infringement.

The quick thinking Free tapped and forced his way over the line. It was 20 minutes until the next score came from the hard working Gower scrum half Matthew Aubrey, the Wales under-18 showing good strength to power his way over from a ruck five metres out.

Gower wing Harry Davies was next to cross the whitewash, finishing off some approach work by the Gower forwards.

Cowbridge blindside Dan Holder was next up finishing off a 10 metre driving lineout. This was quickly followed by another Cowbridge forward effort which saw them drive the lineout 10 metres, with busy No 8 Aled Ward breaking away and diving over in the corner.

Year 9B netball team.

Cowbridge now needed to score a converted try to win the game with the last play. To their credit they played their way up the field, exposing the Gower defence and getting in behind them. Unfortunately with an open field in front of them Cowbridge were judged to have passed the ball forward, bringing on the final whistle.

Cowbridge will play Neath/Port Talbot College in round two of the qualifying stages. This is a tough away fixture with Cowbride needing to improve to give them a chance of victory.

Cowbridge are in a qualifying group with three other colleges, Gower College, Neath Port Talbot College and Coleg Sir Gar. The top two from the group will be placed in the premier league while the bottom two will be placed in the championship league.

FOOTBALL

The Year 8 football team played St Cyres Comprehensive School in the first round of the Cardiff and Vale regional qualifier for the Welsh Cup.

The conditions for the game were ideal; with no wind present and the sun shining high, it made for a great game.

Cowbridge had the sun in their eyes for the first half, but this did not deter them in the slightest.

They started the game well, with quick and accurate passing in the centre of the pitch. They provided an excellent platform to unleash a number of shots, which were either excellently saved or just missed the target.

The first goal of the new season came from Will Marsden. St Cyres were throwing themselves in front of the ball, making a number of crucial blocks, until Will picked up the ball just outside the box and hammered it into the top corner.

From this moment on, Cowbridge did not look back. St Cyres were fighting with all their might, but could not get the break they wanted. Cowbridge's second goal came from a shot by Jake Thomas, which was just out of the reach of the goalkeeper, and the ball went into the back of the net.

The third goal which put the game beyond St Cyres was scored by Will O'Connor. Will hit the ball from all of 25 yards and it was a goal that would not be out of place in the Premiership.

The halftime whistle went, with the score 3-0 to Cowbridge. St Cyres started the second half with a lot of more intent, but Cowbridge's defence of Matthew Dewhurst and Dan Stancombe would not let them pass.

Cowbridge played some excellent football throughout the rest of the game and scored three more goals through Ed Thomas, Jake Thomas and Matt Oddy.

Well done Year 8! You started the way you left last season, playing brilliant football, and showing your high level of footballing ability. Players of the match: all the team!

Competitions, culture and dance in Maendy YFC!

MAENDY YFC's New Year is well under way! Following a vibrant and well attended new members' evening, focus now turns to forthcoming competitions and club activities, which are an exciting part of the calendar.

Club chairman, Miss Heather Jarvis, recently hosted a visit from South Wales Police at her family farm. Police officers from various units, including dog handlers, firearms and the traffic division, attended the evening and gave informative talks and demonstrations in their respective area of expertise.

Members were fascinated with the specialist equipment and experiences that the officers shared.

The competition season has begun in earnest, with carcass judging taking place on October 6. Stock judging and public speaking competitions are also just around the corner, not to mention a new addition to the busy young farmers' programme of a county eisteddfod for members to try their hand at.

Glamorgan YFC has introduced an eisteddfod competition day to their calendar this year, which will provide members with a further opportunity to display their many skills and talents. This year's competition will take place at Neath Conservative Club on Sunday, October 12.

In preparation for the cultural event, Maendy members are busy rehearsing for the various elements, which include singing, light entertainment and homework pieces.

Aside from competitions, the club holds regular meetings in which members can keep up to date with the latest news, be a part of club decisions and find out what's coming up in the club programme.

Maendy members and supporters are currently looking forward to the annual dinner dance which is taking place on Friday, October 10 at the Swalec Stadium.

As always, new members are welcome to come along and find out what Young Farmers Club is all about! For further information visit www.maendy-yfc.com or email maendy.yfc@gmail.com. You can also 'like' the Maendy YFC Facebook page and follow @MaendyYFC on Twitter. **Louise Evans**

Throwing light on dementia

MANY congratulations to the Desert Divas for their fundraising night at the Memorial Hall last week, in support of the Ty Hapus dementia care centre on Holton Road.

The Desert Divas, who started life from adult education classes in Barry a decade ago, put on an excellent night of entertainment and fun, bringing together middle-eastern dance groups across Wales and the south-west of England – raising funds for an important local charity and raising awareness of international Alzheimer's day that took place on Sunday, September 21.

As a member of the Vale of Glamorgan's health and social care committee, I am aware that dementia is often thought of as being an older person's disease, when, in reality, it can affect people of any age – and the needs of younger people with early onset dementia can be quite different to older people.

That's why it is important that Barry has a charity and facility like Ty Hapus to help individuals and their families deal with the impact of this.

If anybody has any questions about early onset dementia and the charity's work then they should get in touch with Ty Hapus on 01446 738024 or at www.tyhapus.org.uk

Coun Ian Johnson, Barry,
Plaid Cymru – the Party of Wales.

'Votes at 16' a good idea says AM

WELSH Liberal Democrat Assembly Member for South Wales Central, Eluned Parrott, has said that the Scottish referendum must be used as a springboard for votes at 16 to be extended to all elections.

A total of 100,000 16 to 17-year-olds had registered to vote in the Scottish referendum, which was the first time that they have had the right to vote in a major ballot in the UK.

Eluned Parrott said: "Political parties in Wales and Westminster must unite over lowering the voting age to 16. We must build on the momentum of the Scottish referendum and ensure that young people can continue to express their views at the ballot box in future elections."

The Barry & District mens skittles league

DIVISION 1:

49'ers.(R.Nicholls,G. Yarr 29) 293, Ex-Servicemen(R.Lapton 30)) 291; Blue Monkey (N.McCarthy 29) 269, Cavaliers (R.Lewis 26) 234; Barry Park 'B'(P.McCalthy, R.Bishop 28) 299, The Hairy Lemons (D.Gill 23) 232; Colcot Boys (B.Sullivan 29) 221, Mighty Dockers (M.Conway, G.Gurd 27) 266; Mighty Dockers (A.Gurd 30) 275,The Merrymen (J.Gee 30) 293; Park Lads (G.Jones, D.Lambert 28) 268, Colcot Boys (T.Sherrin, K.Thomas 24) 257; Park Rangers (S.Dite 28) 275, Bunker boys (D.Hewitson, S.Western 28)) 271; West End Stars (A.Baker, D.Beattie, C.Alldred 28) 292, Geest (L.Galsworthy 30) 263

Division 2: Barry Social (S.Grant 29) 218, Tynewydd Lads (J.Stacey, D.Sluman 27) 255; Exiles (K.Tudor 30) 270, Tynny Fliers (P.Snook 28) 274; Posties (S.marsh 27) 274, Abercrete (D.Arnold 26) 247; Sea View (K.Pycrofr 34) 305, Witchill Wizards (L.Jones, C.Casado, D.Britian 28) 280; The Royalists (M.Lewis, A.Evens 30) 286, Buffs Exiles (R.Miller 32) 310; Tynewydd Lads (S.Germon 30) 305, Sea View (B.Watkins 30) 268; Witchill Poachers (R.Power 37) 359, BP Breakaways (J.Rees 33) 332; Willie Wombles (I.Draisey 32) 267, Road Runners (S.Hill 29) 265.

Division 3: C.U.D.(P.Palmer 29) 249, Billy Bluebirds (D.Davey 29) 284; Cannon Balls (T.Price 35) 318, Commanchies '2'(W.Palmer 32) 293; 'H'Bells (K.Lewis, B.Howcroft 28) 261, KP Monkey Nuts (J.Clarke 29) 283.

HR

COTTRELL PARK LADIES STAGE OWN RYDER CUP

The two 'Ryder Cup' teams.

Jan and Tessa with the 'Ryder cup cakes'.

THE ladies of Cottrell Park Golf Club pre-empted the Ryder Cup, by playing their own competition with a four-ball better ball matchplay with a USA team captained by Tessa Matthew, and European team captained by Jan Cosby.

Dressed in appropriate colours, the competition was very competitive with a high standard of play. The Europeans won 5 to 3.

The better ball winners on the European team were Lorraine Pointon-Bell and Sandra Collin with 42 points and the USA team Andrea Caines and Maureen Bowen with 41 points. Although cool, it remained dry and was a very enjoyable day.

Ladies' captain Jan Cosby presented the prizes and 'Ryder cup cakes' were appreciated by all.

CB

Bowls fun as the tourists come to play

SULLY Indoor Bowls Club entertained Northampton County Bowls Tourists on Saturday to play a seven-rink friendly; they were also playing a six-rink game in Cardiff.

Their south Wales tour had already taken them to play two games on Friday against Carmarthen sides and were also due to play two games on Sunday at Merthyr and Islwyn.

The Sully Stadium team was made up of stadium members representing their outdoor clubs, e.g. Romilly, Cadoxton, Sully, Millwood, Penarth Windsor and B P Sully.

The game was played in tremendous spirit as touring team friendlies usually are, but the Northampton rinks were also strong, which made for a very competitive game.

A full game of 21 ends was played with five rinks remaining pretty close throughout the game but two Sully rinks struggled from the start, finally losing by 12 and 14 shots; with another rink losing by five shots it was left to the other four Sully rinks to save the day. Although winning on the four rinks the score differentials were not enough to turn the result in Sully's favour with the final score 123-140 to Northampton.

The result appeared immaterial as those taking part enjoyed a good afternoon of bowls with everyone enjoying the camaraderie.

Rink scores (Sully first): K McLeod 28 v 22 T Wright; F Phillips 16 v 21 T James; C James 10 v 24 B Tingle; J Jones 13 v 25 J Church; K Romans 19 v 18 G Hunt; D Curtis 17 v 15 R Somerton; B Foscolo 20 v 15 J Haines.

The first Championship game takes place at Sully against Newport on Saturday, October 11 - will all players who wish to be considered for selection place their names on the availability sheet.

FP

Barry West End cricket team entertain tourists

Saturday saw Barry West End CC entertain English tourists, Plymouth Oddballs at the Barry Oval; the West End fielded first.

Tommy Miller and Dafydd Frost opened the bowling for the West End while Oddballs opened their batting with D Newman and R Porritt.

Both Miller and Frost sent down a maiden each in the opening overs to restrict the scoring. It was Frost who found the made breakthrough when he bowled Porritt for 11.

D Stones was number three for the Oddballs. Miller took the second wicket for the West End when he bowled Newman for three. P Downer came in at number four but his innings was shortlived as he was removed cheaply for one by Frost. R Ingram was batsman number five. Oddballs faltered at 27-3 after 11 overs.

Nye Lane and Richard Eastman were the next into the attack for the Westies. The pair continued the trend of tight bowling, and the pressure brought about the next wicket.

Ingram offered Mark Ellis an easy catch off the bowling of Lane. , and Ingram departed for 14. K Trent was number six for the Oddballs. The Oddballs reached 69-4 at the halfway stage of their innings.

A third change in bowling for the West End saw the introduction of Rhys Hatton and Neil Holmes. D Stones, Oddballs number three, retired upon reaching 50. K Morrish came to the crease as number seven.

Holmes picked up a wicket when he bowled Morrish for 7. A Passman came to the crease as number eight. and Holmes picked up a second wicket when he was caught at cover by Rhys Hatton for 6.

Trent soon picked up the tempo of the Oddballs innings, he dispatched Hatton for 20 in one over, much to the delight of the travelling contingent.

Oddballs found themselves 169-6 with five overs remaining. Trent retired on 53 after a powerful display. B Henit was number nine for the Oddballs. A final bowling change saw Steve Oram and Mark Ellis come on to bowl.

Oram picked up a wicket when he removed Henit for 30. Another two wickets soon followed for Oram, Goodwin was out hit wicket for six and Underhill bowled for nine. Oram and Ellis did well to restrict the free scoring that had dominated the second half of the Oddballs innings and they finished on 203-8 after 40 overs.

After the tea break, the West End opened their account with Mark Williams and Rhys Howell. Oddballs opened the bowling with M Whalley and A Goodwin. Goodwin found the first breakthrough, when he removed Williams caught and bowled for nine.

Ben Collins was number three for the West End. Collins and Howell played superbly to reach 39-1 after 10 overs. D Newman and R Underhill were introduced into the attack by the Oddballs. Collins and Howell continued to score freely around the ground. Howell retired upon reaching his 50.

D Frost was number four for the West End and they soon reached 106-1 after 27 overs. R Porritt and A Passsman were the third bowling change for the Oddballs.

Passman picked up his first and the Oddballs' second wicket when Frost was bowled for 23.

S Oram was number five for the Westies. Porritt picked up his first wicket when Collins was caught behind for a well-made 32. R Eastman was number six, he was quickly removed lbw to Whatton for 0.

M Ellis was number seven, and he too soon fell when Porritt bowled him for 1. Glan Williams was number eight for the West End and Porritt picked up his third wicket when he bowled Williams for two.

Tommy Miller was number nine for the Westies, who were 132-6 with eight overs remaining. Oram was next out, bowled by Porritt for 20. A Lane was number 10 for the West End.

Miller was next out, stumped for eight off the bowling of new bowler R Ingram. R Hatton was number 11, and he was bowled first ball by Ingram. Howell returned to the crease for the final few balls as he had retired not-out.

The West End came up 31 runs short after a well fought game. Both the West End and tourists Plymouth Oddballs returned to the West End club.

Thanks to Steve and Debs Dite for providing curry and chips for all players. All players would also like to thank Keith Nokes and Rhys Thomas for umpiring both innings. Credit to Mark Ellis for his arrangement of the fixture, which was superb.

RH

We welcome your sports reports, news and items of interest - email: *gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk*

Farmers travel over Irish Sea!

THIRTY three members and guests of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society recently returned from a very enjoyable trip across the Irish sea after playing 54 holes over three days for the David Evans (Agriculture) Ltd trophy.

The city of Waterford proved a perfect location, leaving just a short coach journey each day to play the three selected courses.

Tramore Golf Club, one of the oldest clubs in Ireland and which over the years has hosted many Irish Championships, proved the ideal venue for the first day's competition, and also for popular member Glyn Watts-Jones, who was celebrating his 81st birthday. Heading the leader board after day one was Jim Hayes with 36 points followed by Dan Jarvis (35) and David Wiliams (31).

Mount Juliet Golf Club in Kilkenny welcomed the society for the second day's competition, which resulted in Bryan Owen taking first place with 34 points followed by Clive Thomas (31) and David Williams (30).

The final day's action at Faithlegg Golf Club, acclaimed as the best golf resort in Munster, proved an excellent choice by tour organiser Mike King for the final round of this annual competition.

Martin Edwards rose to the occasion at this magnificent venue, taking first place with 32 points followed by Gareth Perkins who scored 31.

With all three rounds completed, the aggregate scores over the three days were announced, with Llancadle entrepreneur David Williams being declared the overall winner with 91 points.

Dan Jarvis finished runner up with 83, Bryan Owen third with 82 points and Jim Hayes fourth with 80.

T.McC

Vale Resort golf course celebrates 20th anniversary

THE Vale Resort is celebrating the 20th anniversary of its first championship golf course, the Lake Course, this October.

Unveiled in 1994, the 18-hole course has been played by more than 70,000 golfers in 20 years, including professionals such as Wales's Bradley Dredge and Ian Woosnam, as well as world-famous stars such as Gareth Bale, Sir Alex Ferguson and Bernard Gallagher.

The par-72 course has hosted four professional tournaments in the last 20 years, including Welsh professional championships and European Challenge Tour events.

Aptly named, the course is dominated by 12 lakes with water coming into play on 12 of its holes, including the impressive 20-acre lake running along the 14th hole. And the course's signature hole, the Island Green, is ranked as one of the Wales' top par four golf holes.

Clive Coombs, golf operations manager at the Vale Resort, said: "The Lake Course was the resort's first golf course and certainly set the benchmark of the high-standard of golf facilities at the Vale Resort.

"Over the last 20 years, the course hasn't changed much, but it has certainly matured. There were more than 20,000 trees planted when the course opened, and they were no more than 1ft high. The Lake Course now boasts impressive wooded areas, with some of our trees reaching more than 40ft in height, offering a sanctuary for wildlife including kites and hawks. Coupled with a mixture of wide and narrow fairways and challenging water obstacles, the course attracts thousands of golfers every year to the resort."

As part of the anniversary celebrations, the Vale Resort is offering reduced green fees, 20 per cent off shoes and clothing at resort's Pro Shop and £20 a buggy per round of golf throughout October.

New members can also enjoy their first six months golf membership for £200 if taken during the anniversary month.

Mr Coombs added: "The 20th anniversary of the Lake Course is a milestone; there aren't many golf clubs in Wales that have such an impressive history and we're inviting golfers, past and present, to celebrate with us this October."

Players of the resort's two championship winning golf courses, The Lake Course and the Wales National, can now access 3D flyover technology to watch the journey to the green through aerial shots of each hole, offering insight on how the course should be best played, before teeing off.

Golfers can also download the Vale Resort's bespoke golf app, which acts as a 3D-GPS distance device to help players improve their game.

For more information visit www.vale-hotel.com/Golf.

Burnett davies with Easton

Dinas Powys
029 2051 2222
5B Station Road
Dinas Powys
CF64 4DE

Barry
01446 737253
17 High Street
Barry
CF62 7EA

Cardiff
029 2062 1081
21 Penlline Road
Whitchurch
CF14 2AA

Email: info@bdeaston.com
Web: www.bdeaston.com

Llwyn David, Barry £99,950
Modern, ground floor, 2 double bedroom apartment with large living room, kitchen and bathroom. Telephone door entry system, off street parking & large communal garden. Stone's throw from the waterfront.

Trinity Street, Barry • £125,000
Traditional mid-terraced property, made famous by the filming of Gavin & Stacey. Two double bedrooms, 1st floor bathroom, living room, dining room, kitchen & pleasant rear garden/courtyard with southerly & views.

14 Minster Close, Barry • £177,500
4 bedroom, modern house with loft and garage conversions offering a fabulous master bedroom and second reception/playroom respectively. Also comprising a kitchen & breakfast room with patio doors, cloakroom/WC and family bathroom.

Porth-Y-Castell, Barry • £399,950
Well presented, 4 bed detached house enjoying an elevated position with panoramic sea views. Also comprising 3 receptions, kitchen, utility room & cloakroom plus driveway & garage.

Harding Close, Llantwit Major £135,000
Great opportunity to acquire a well presented, 3 bed house. Large, modern, kitchen/diner with french doors opening onto the rear patio, spacious living room with open stairs, 3 beds and bathroom.

Brooklands Terrace, Cardiff • £149,950
Immaculate, mid-terrace property with sizeable living room, large conservatory, well equipped kitchen, 2 bedrooms & bathroom. Also offering a pleasant, enclosed garden & brick pavior driveway.

Gower Cottage, The Green Cardiff £695,000
An exceptional, detached, 4 bedroom period cottage nestling on c.0.70 acres of mature, landscaped grounds. Discreetly located in a quiet, rural location yet within minutes of Cardiff & the M4 motorway.

St Donats Close Dinas Powys • £175,000
Well presented mid-terrace property with uPVC double glazing & gas fired heating. Large, open plan living & dining areas with French doors opening onto the garden. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, front/rear garden & garage.

Station Road Dinas Powys • £184,500
Stylish, top floor accommodation comprising entrance hallway, two double bedrooms (master with en-suite), bathroom, kitchen and impressive living area. Dedicated parking & communal garden.

8 Castle Drive Dinas Powys £185,000
Well proportioned, semi-detached house with long driveway, garage and enclosed rear garden. Large living area, open plan kitchen with dining area, 3 double bedrooms (2 doubles) and family bathroom.

Brooklands Dinas Powys • £224,500
2 double bedroom apartment presented in show home condition. Master bedroom with en-suite & dressing area, bathroom, kitchen and dining room plus galleried mezzanine.

St Ambrose Close Dinas Powys £237,500
Extended family home offering generous accommodation, including three reception rooms, large kitchen, conservatory, five bedrooms, family bathroom, driveway and pleasant, enclosed rear garden.

St Davids Avenue Dinas Powys • £232,000
Arranged over 4 storeys with 2 reception rooms, fantastic kitchen & breakfast room with spacious area for a table & chairs, 4 bedrooms (3 doubles) & 2 bathrooms. Driveway and enclosed rear garden.

Powys Place Dinas Powys • £249,950
Deceptively spacious, extended 4 bedroom house with open plan kitchen & breakfast room, large 'L' shaped conservatory plus attic conversion. Generous plot with large south facing garden.

Millbrook Heights Dinas Powys • £255,000
3 bedroom semi-detached house enjoying an elevated position with spectacular views. Porch, cloakroom, kitchen, living room & dining room with French doors opening onto an impressive, balcony. Landscaped south facing garden, single garage and driveway.

Cae'r Odyn, Dinas Powys • £269,500
Extended and immaculately presented 4 bedroom house forming part of the popular, Southra Park estate and with access onto and views over open playing fields.

Britway Road Dinas Powys • £330,000
Period cottage with 3 receptions, open plan kitchen & breakfast room, laundry room & cloakroom together with 3 double bedrooms and bathroom. Beautiful south facing garden & driveway parking for 2 cars.

Ty Caredig, Old Farm Mews, Dinas Powys £445,000
Contemporary new build offering up to 3/4 bedrooms, garaging for 2 cars & boasting private & enclosed outside space including a courtyard, large roof terrace & balcony off the master bedroom.

Derlwyn, Cross Common Dinas Powys £435,000
Fabulous 4/5 bed dormer bungalow offering versatile accommodation and enjoying a large corner plot. Driveway parking, garage and immaculate grounds.

Hendref, Park Road Dinas Powys • £500,000
Four bedroom, Edwardian residence. Master bedroom with French doors, balcony and far reaching views plus 3 reception rooms, the principle of which enjoys exceptional proportions. Private garden and detached garage.

Turnpike Close Dinas Powys • £550,000
Contemporary, 4 bedroom, detached house forming part of an exclusive development. Master bedroom with en-suite, 3 reception rooms (principle with balcony & far reaching views), kitchen & breakfast room, double garage, workshop & landscaped grounds.

Cross Farm, Dinas Powys • £725,000
Truly unique Welsh Longhouse with origins dating back to the15th century. Over 2,500 sq ft of family living accommodation including 4 / 5 bedrooms and 4 reception rooms.

Westwood Court, Penarth • £119,500
3rd (top) floor retirement apartment comprising a living room, kitchen, double bedroom and bathroom together with pleasant views, resident lounges, guest suite for visiting family and friends, well maintained gardens and parking

Elderberry House Barry • £459,500
Detached house with double garage, driveway & pleasant grounds. 3 reception rooms, kitchen / breakfast room, utility room & cloakroom plus 4 bedrooms (master with dressing room & en-suite) and bathroom.

Cwm Ciddy Cottage, Rhoose • £435,000
Grade II Listed cottage with separate c.2 acre paddock and stable block. 2 principle receptions, study, kitchen, utility and cloakroom plus 3 double bedrooms and family bathroom. Large grounds with garage / outbuilding.

Hayes Point, Sully £169,500
Beautifully appointed ground floor 2 bedroom apartment forming part of the Hayes Point development Master bedroom with en-suite and hi-spec kitchen with granite work surfaces.

Stradlin Close, Sully £250,000
Detached, 2 bedroom bungalow with superb, full width conservatory. Recently extended to offer an exceptional family room (over 300 sq ft / 28 sq m). Also boasting a large enclosed garden with sun terrace & driveway.

Cog Road, Sully £299,950
4 bedroom, detached residence superbly presented throughout & comprising 2 receptions, kitchen, dining room, utility room, cloakroom & large conservatory. Also 4 bedrooms, bathroom, pleasant front & rear gardens plus driveway for 4 cars.

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APPLICATION DEADLINE: 5:00PM 8 October 2014

Vale of Glamorgan Council | Hafod Housing Association | Newydd Housing Association | United Welsh | Wales and West Housing Association

homes4u HOTLINE 01446 709840

To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at
HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
or apply in writing to:
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Visible Services and Housing
Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU or
Newydd Housing Association
121 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AL

AVOCET COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 1093647
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing

Rent £80.40 per week including service charge

BROUGHTON PLACE, BARRY

H4U Reference 202608
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £101.92 per week including water charges

CAERLEON ROAD, DINAS POWYS

H4U Reference 104595
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £95.50 per week

CWRT EIRLYS, BARRY

No image available

H4U Reference 104612
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £91.90 per week

DOWNS VIEW, ABERTHIN

H4U Reference 230095
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
- Two-bedroom flat
- Upstairs
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £88.13 per week including water charge

HANOVER COURT, DINAS POWYS

H4U Reference 1007665
Suit for single person or couple over 60 (55 with medical need)
- One-bedroom flat
- First floor (no lift)
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Manager and alarm

Rent £112.43 per week

HERITAGE DRIVE, BARRY

H4U Reference 104636
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
- Three-bedroom house
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing
- Parking and rear garden

Rent £93.26 per week including service charge

HILLARY RISE, BARRY

H4U Reference 104600
Suitable for a family with one child
- Two-bedroom house
- Open plan living room
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £81.00 per week

LABURNUM WAY, PENARTH

H4U Reference 240935
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

Rent £108.30 per week including water charges

LLYS TEILO, LLANTWIT MAJOR

H4U Reference 1019223
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
- Two-bedroom house
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing
- Enclosed rear garden
- Parking

Rent £84.66 per week including service charge

OAK COURT, PENARTH

H4U Reference 996950
Suit for single person over 60 (55 with medical need)
- One-bedroom flat
- First floor (lift)
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Manager and alarm

Rent £110.38 per week

PARKLAND WALK, BARRY

H4U Reference 219455
Suitable for a single person or couple over 55 - no pets
- One-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Community alarm

Rent £93.76 per week including water and alarm chgs

PHILIPPA FREETH COURT, BARRY

H4U Reference 982181
Suitable for a single person over 55
- One-bedroom flat
- Second floor (no lift)
- Gas central heating
- Double-glazing
- Communal gardens

Rent £79.04 per week including service charge

ST PAULS AVENUE, PENARTH

H4U Reference 245715
Suitable for a family meeting the maximum occupancy requirement
- Three-bedroom maisonette
- Upstairs
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Communal gardens

Rent £95.21 per week including water charges

STRATFORD & HATHAWAY PLACE, BARRY

H4U Reference 211635
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- 2 x three-bedroom houses
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- Gardens

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- Offered freehold

£114,950

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- Newly refurbished 3 bedroom end terrace in good central location
- Gas central heating & double glazed throughout
- Included within the Castleland Regeneration Scheme
- Secure gated rear lane access
- Offered freehold with no chain

£119,950

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CAREW CLOSE, BARRY
- Well presented 3 bedroom semi detached property in quiet cul-de-sac location
- Gas central heating & double glazed throughout
- Off road parking to front
- Would make ideal first time purchase
- Offered freehold with no chain

£110,000

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- A 4 bedroom detached property in popular location
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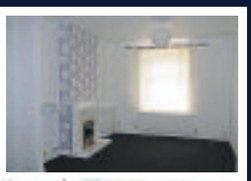
- Detached garage & driveway
- Spacious gardens
- Views across Bristol channel

£235,000

NEW

RICHARD STREET, BARRY
- 2 bedroom mid terrace property in a central location
- Gas central heating & double glazed
- Lean to for storage
- Low maintenance garden to the rear
- Offered with no chain.

£114,950



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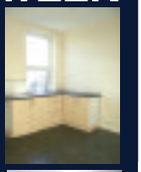

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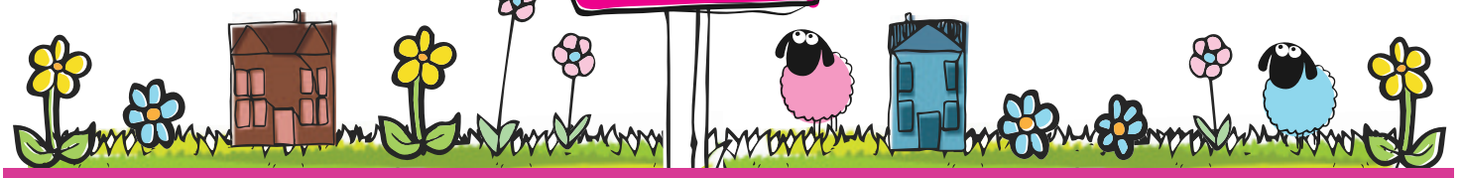

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Combi GCH
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2 Bedrooms
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Percy Smith Road, Boverton
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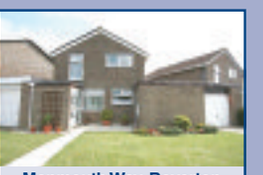

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Pinewood Square, St Athan
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3 Bed Dormer
GCH Combi
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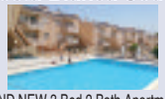

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Chris Davies Estate Agents are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand pounds for **6 Tresilian Close, Llantwit Major, CF61 1QX**
Anyone wishing to place an offer on the property should contact Chris Davies Estate Agents, Heritage House, Llantwit Major, CF61 1XY Tel: 01446 792020, prior to exchange of contracts.

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Anniversaries

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25
Teresa & Stuart Jones
on 7th October
Congratulations Mum & Dad
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Aaron & Bethan xxx

25th Wedding Anniversary

Teresa & Stuart Jones (Nee Tyrrell)
on 7th October
Congratulations to you both, love Mum & Dad, Wendy, Deb & Lee, Dave & Nicola, Angela, Emily, Joseph and Aunty Sandra xxx

Family Notices

SQD. LDR. ARTHUR (PHIL) PHILLIPS *RAF RETD*

Passed away on September 22, 2014. Beloved husband of Kathy and loving father to Suzy, Lindy and David.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major until the funeral service on Wednesday, 8 October 2014 in Coychurch Crematorium at 2.15pm. Family flowers only, but donations may be made to British Heart Foundation c/o the Funeral Director (cheques only please).

RAWLINGS Dorothy

Peacefully at home on 19th September 2014, Dorothy, aged 94 years of Cowbridge and formerly of Bridgend. Dearly loved wife of the late Edward (Ted), loving mother of Christopher and Helen, mother-in-law of Susan and Peter and a much loved grandmother and great grandmother.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Sons Funeral Home, College St, Llantwit Major until the funeral on Friday, 3rd October 2014, service and cremation at 11.30am at Coychurch Crematorium where family and friends please meet. Family flowers only - donations if desired to Alzheimer's Disease Society c/o W.A. Brown.

WARD Maureen Joan

Peacefully on Saturday, September 27th, Maureen, much loved wife of Alan, loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

She will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Monday, October 6th at 1.15pm. Family flowers only please.

EVANS Lloyd Trigg

Peacefully on Friday, September 26th, Lloyd, much loved son of Tony and Lynne, brother of Rhian and Rhys.

He will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Funeral service at Coychurch Crematorium on Monday, October 6th at 1.15pm. Family flowers only please.

Richard William Morgan (Richie)

Very much loved and respected by his brother, sisters, nieces and nephews, greatly missed by us all.

'Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near. Still loved, still missed and very dear. Forever with us.'

BOWEN Thomas Vescey (Tom)

Peacefully at the Waverly Care Home Penarth. Thomas (Tom), devoted husband of the late Barbara, loving father to Nigel, loving grandfather to Darryl and Kaylee. Tom will be sadly missed by his sister in law Valarie and sister Jean, and all his family and friends.

Resting at Park Independent Funeral Directors, 7 Tynewydd Road, Barry until the service at Barry Cemetery Chapel on Thursday 9th October at 2pm, followed by internment at Barry Cemetery at 2.30pm. Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Directors.

'Woggy'

Warren Pemberton
7th October 2012
Still in our conversations and thoughts
Fond memories never fade

OWENS William Raymond (Ray)

Sheila, David, Gareth and Jude would like to thank all family and friends for their cards and kind messages of sympathy.

We would also like to thank so many of you who attended Ray's funeral and for the very generous donations to Marie Curie Holme Towers in his memory.

Special thanks also to Robert and his staff at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home for their care and support at this sad time.

GREGORY Arthur

Peacefully on September 15th at Waverley Care Home, Penarth, Arthur, formerly of Llantrithyd, will be sadly missed.

Funeral service at St Illtyd's Church, Llantrithyd on Wednesday, October 8th, 2014 at 2pm, followed by interment. Any enquiries please contact Thomas Brothers 01446 775681.

WALLIS Keith William

Peacefully after a long illness bravely borne, Keith, much loved son, father, grandfather and brother.

He will be sadly missed by all that knew him.

Funeral service at St James' Church, Wick on Friday, October 10th, 2014 at 2pm, followed by interment. Flowers may be sent to J.R. & M.F. David, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

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to our darling **Chantelle**

Wishing you a very happy 18th birthday on October 1st 2014
with loads & loads of love from Aunty Leslie, Uncle Bob, Jodie, PJ & Callum
xxxxx

Happy 18th Birthday
to our darling
Chantelle Irene Williams
(Chant) on October 1 2014.

To our little girl whose now all grown up.
Lots of love, mum, nanny & cats (Barbie Lola & Pluto)

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NASUWT Welsh Plate, Welsh Champions

TEAM: Laura Annetts, Jordan Meek, Jessica Wadey, Meriel Clode, Megan Hodgson, Tirion Evans, Ffion McNamee, Sarah Jones.

70m hurdles – Megan Hodgson – Winner and Plate; High jump – Megan Hodgson – Winner and Equal Plate; 4x100m relay – Winners and Plate; 800m – Jessica Wadey – Winner; Long jump – Jordan Meek – runner up; Javelin – Tirion Evans – runner up;

100m – Laura Annetts – runner up; 200m – Jordan Meek – runner up.

County Representation:

SENIOR boys 100m, 200m, 4x100m and combined events – Iori Moore. Under-17 boys 100m, 200m and 4x100m – Kristian Jones. Under-17 boys high jump and triple jump – Tom Trotman. Under-17 combined events – Brooke Langton Cryer; under-17 girls high jump and combined events – Niamh Galton; under-17 girls javelin – Sian Smith.

Under-15 girls pole vault and combined events – Megan Hodgson; under-15 girls pole vault – Tirion Evans; under-15 girls 300m – Jessica Wadey; under-15 girls combined events – Jordan Meek.

International Representation (SIAB):

UNDER-17 boys 100m, 200m and 4x100m – Kristian Jones. Under-17 boys high jump – Tom Trotman. Under-17 girls high jump – Niamh Galton .

BASKETBALL

Vale of Glamorgan Representation:

UNDER-14 – Beth Edwards; Jessica Gregory; Emily Gregory; Ella Katherine Jones; Iwan Ap-John Williams; Tom Ap-John Williams; Rory James; Jamie Owen; Will Marsden.

Under-18 – Matthew Roberts; Alex Greaves.

CROSS COUNTRY

County Representation:

Middle girls – Nadine James, Cerys Bradshaw.

Junior girls – Jessica Wadey; Selina Radcliffe, Georgia Armitage, Aimee Jones, Meriel Clode, Emily Jenkins.

Year-7 girls – Sophie Hawkins, Charlotte Tudor, Beth Edwards, Rebecca Murray, Eve Bird, Eve Mordecai, Eve Demmer, Alice Coe.

Middle boys – Alex Love.

Junior boys – Sam Corkill.

Year-7 boys – Jack Tudor, Ben Batten, Morgan Heselton, Will O'Connor.

FOOTBALL

County Representation:

Under-14 – Rhydian Williams.

Under-13 – Alex Brookes-Bent, Logan Roach, Cameron Gauci, Amy Williams.

Under-12 – Sophie Hawkins, Jake Thomas.

GOLF

Under-18 Glamorgan county team – Matthew Roberts.

GYMNASTICS

County Representation:

Under-14 – Megan Hodgson, Tom Wright.

Under-19 – Mia Sexton, Cameron Davies.

HOCKEY

County Representation:

Under-16 – Ellie Eddy-Williams, Jemma Viney.

NETBALL

County Representation:

Under-14 – Annabel Hegarty, Selina Radcliffe.

Under-16 – Megan McNamee, Kim Jerwood.

U18 – Lydia Hitchings.

Welsh Development: High Performance HUBs – Selina Radcliffe, Annabel Hegarty, Lydia Hitchings, Kim Jerwood.

RUGBY

County Representation:

Dewar Shield – Cai Evans, Harry Hopkins, Daniel Bunney, James Holder.

Blues Development – Ben Jones, Joe Davies, James Bennett, Tom Trotman, Tom Evans.

Under-16 Cardiff Blues – Craig Boxall, Rian Thomas, Hywel Williams, Tom Lucas.

Under-18 Cardiff Blues – Jack Davies, James Whittingham, Harri Thomas, Harry Collier, Aldi Coverdale.

Welsh Crawshays under-19 – Harri Thomas, Josh Thomas, Tom Higgins, Nick Griffiths, Dan Holder, Llwyd Elms.

TENNIS:

County Representation:

Under-12 – Will Marsden.

INTERNAL SCHOOL CUPS

CRICKET

Richard Llewellyn Memorial – Sam Wood.

ENDEAVOUR

Gwyn James Cup (year-11) – Evie Williams, Jack Anderson.

HUGH WILLIAMS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO SCHOOL SPORT

Boys – Todd Wilcox; girls – Caitlin Allin.

HUGH WILLIAMS CHWARAE TEG AWARD (SPORTSMANSHIP)

Boys – Tom Higgins; girls – Bethan Sloan.

Gardener Cup (year-8 rugby) – Reuben Williams

Kim Newton Cup (year-8 athletics) – Jessica Wadey

Gary Jackson Cup (year-8 male all-rounder) – Sam Green.

Jan Clutterbuck Cup (year-8 female all-rounder) – Meriel Clode, Megan Hodgson.

Thomas Brother (player of the year) – Jack Davies.

SKIING

Alliance Cup (senior) – Harri Thomas.

Richard Llewellyn Cup (year 9 and 10) – Ben Terry.

Pitman Cup (year-8 – Alex Brookes-Bent.

THE ROTARY CLUB ENDEAVOUR AWARDS

Year-7 girl – Ella Katherine Jones; year-7 boy – Will O'Connor.

INTERNATIONAL ROLL OF HONOUR

ATHLETICS

Wales under-17 100m, 200m and 4X100m relay – Kristian Jones.

Wales under-17 high jump – Tom Trotman.

Wales under-17 and Under-18 high jump –Niamh Galton.

BASKETBALL

Wales under-15 squad – James Large.

Wales under-14 squad – Beth Edwards.

Wales under-14 squad – Jessica Gregory.

Wales under-14 squad – Emily Gregory.

CRICKET

Wales under-17 squad – Oliver Pike.

Wales under-17 squad – Laurie Thomas.

Senior Welsh Minor Counties – Todd Wilcox.

Senior Welsh Minor Counties – Sam Wood.

CROSS COUNTRY

Wales Junior girls cross country team – Jessica Wadey.

DANCE

Wales under-18 squad and freestyle world champion – Megan Watson.

FENCING

Wales under-16 squad and UK School Games – Lauren Oakman.

GOLF

England under-16 golf team – Grace Connelly.

Wales under-18 squad – Kyle Harman.

GYMNASTICS

Wales junior rhythmic gymnastics team – Freya Evans.

Wales grade 3 acro gymnastics team – Nia Davies.

HOCKEY

Under-16 Wales squad and UK school games – Rhys Bradshaw.

HORSE RIDING

Wales Mini's mounted games team – Eve Mordecai.

Wales under-12 show jumping team (Mini Major) – Stephanie Brownbill.

Wales under-17 mounted games team and world individual championships – Sophia Harpin.

ICE HOCKEY

South West England and Wales under-13 – Ben Morgan.

SQUASH

Wales under-15 squad – Kate Workman.

SKATING

Senior Wales and Great Britain performance squad – Sarah Lewis.

SURFING

Wales under-16 squad – Cieran Hughes.

SWIMMING

Wales Commonwealth Games swim team (50m, 100, and 200m breast stroke) – Bethan Sloan.

Wales under16 squad and Celtic Tri Nations – Caitlin Hall.

TAE KWON DO

Junior Wales squad – Bethany Burt.

TETRATHLON

Wales under-15 Tetrathlon team – Mali Howell, Joel Hill.

JIU JITSU

Wales under-18 squad – Toby Walker, Robert Murray.

JUDO

Wales under-16 and Great Britain under-16 squad – Jack Anderson.

LIFEGUARDS

Under-14 SLSA Wales squad – Jessica Wadey.

Under-16 SLSA Wales squad – William Parker.

MODERN PENTATHLON

Great British Biathlon squad – Seren Allin.

NETBALL

Wales under-17 squad – Kim Jerwood, Lydia Hitchings.

RUBGY

Wales under-16 squad – Tom Lucas.

Wales under-18 squad – James Whittingham.

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LY

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Wins for Penarth hockey teams

PENARTH Hockey Club recorded its first wins of the new Davis Wood Hockey League season, with the firsts claiming a comfortable victory and the 2nd XI bouncing back from a tough opening weekend.

Penarth visited their old stomping ground at Leckwith Stadium to take on a Cardiff Medics side that caused a few problems last season, but found their hosts to be in accommodating mood.

The Bears started well and established their superiority by coming out on top of the opening encounters, but it still took a while for the scoreboard to show that same advantage.

The visitors duly opened the scoring midway through the opening half as a superb pass from Sam Docherty found Phil Lane, who then beat two men before squaring the ball for Matt Birch to produce a trademark slapshot to fire past the hapless Medics' 'keeper.

As the half went on, Penarth took greater control of procession, with goalkeeper Mark Harris barely getting a touch. Unable to add to their goal tally, however, the first half closed with the score remaining at 1-0.

After the break, however, Penarth wasted little time in wrapping up all three points, with Lane doubling the lead with a fantastic solo effort.

That spurred the visitors to greater heights and the game was finally put to bed after Birch won a penalty scorner and Chris Baker drag-flicked the resulting opportunity past the 'keeper and into the top corner.

There will sterner tests of Penarth's ability in the coming weeks, but the Vale side will be happy to have got off to a winning start with the expected scoring leaders finding the net early on.

Welcoming back a few regulars unavailable for the first game of the season, Penarth A side presented a stronger front for their opponents, but still appeared to be suffering a hangover from the 0-6 reverse against Llanishen & Caerphilly as they took time to find their stride.

The breakthrough, when it eventually came, followed a quick passing break down the left flank, with Dave Watkins feeding Tom Parkinson the final ball to slot home.

With Penarth in the ascendancy, the pressure moved firmly to the Neath end, and the home side's second penalty corner of the game quickly added to the advantage as Craig Llewellyn found Watkins on the near post and the veteran forward finished deftly on the reverse stick.

A two-goal cushion, while comfortable, was never going to be enough at the half, with Penarth well aware that Neath only needed the slightest opportunity to strike back. Late pressure – and a series of penalty corners – at the end of the first half showed what the visitors were capable of and it did not take long for the gap to be halved as some poor defending allowed them to pull a goal back shortly after the interval.

Worse was to come for Penarth as Neath converted a penalty corner to level the scores and, for a while, it appeared that the visitors could be about to steal all three points. A second goal for Watkins, again the result of a quick break sparked by James Davies, settled Penarth nerves, and the restoration of the two-goal cushion, courtesy of Rory Vizard, appeared to have put the game firmly back in the grip of the home side.

Neath, however, refused to concede, and reduced the deficit once again by benefitting from a deflection off Llewellyn's stick that left goalkeeper James Erasmus with no chance of saving.

Possession flowed from end to end in the closing minutes, with debutant Sam Salisbury showing a lot of promise linking between midfield and attack, but it was Neath on the attack when the final whistle sounded to bring relief to a Penarth side that should have made the game safe in the second half.

League games continue this weekend, with the 1st XI looking to build on a 3-0 away win against Cardiff Medics when they host bottom of the table Cardiff & Met 'C', and the 2nd XI travelling to Hawthorn to face the 'other' Llanishen & Caerphilly side in their division.

Further information about the club can be obtained from secretary Dave Stevens via: d_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk. **CL**

BARRY SAINTS HIT RAILWAY FOR SIX!

BARRY Saints kept up their fantastic start to the season with a 6-1 victory over Railway Wanderers.

Barry were ahead after a great corner by David Evans which was superbly headed back by Nathan Williams into the path of Andrew Wyatt.

Darren Townsend added his name to the scoresheet; after some tidy football from the back he was set free to finish well from a tight angle. Townsend grabbed his second after being released by Williams to smartly finish a one on one situation.

Man of the match Rhys Hocking was unfortunate not to get on the scoresheet after seeing his dipping 35 yard shot tipped on to the bar. Ashley Ashill got in on the act with a goal and Townsend completed his hat trick soon later when goalkeeper Nicky Elston sprayed a pass to the striker near the halfway line.

Townsend turned and ran at goal and struck a shot from well outside the box.

Saints were cruising, 5-0 up at halftime, but the second half started slowly, Saints making chances but never really showing the lethal touch in front of goal.

Saints were then reduced to 10 men. Almost immediately Saints conceded, as a long cross from the left was headed back across goal and left the striker with an easy header.

Saints struck back with Darren Townsend, who then added his fourth after beating the last man and finishing his one on one with ease.

Barry Saints now sit six points clear at the top of the table and welcome Vulcan Galaxy next at Wenvoe. **GL**

Barry & District LDS skittle league results

1st Division: Barry Stars (N Jones 33), Allsorts (H Bunting, R Dawe 33); SV Gals (J Richards 32), Coppers (D Nesbitt, J Hartnell 31); Pila Palas (E Dyke 34), Red Admiral (M Gee 33); Family Affair (C Edwards 29), Space Finders (D Carter 29); Bakers Dozen (M Rockett, S Howe, R Hewitson, J Mullins 25), Angels (B Niblett 27).

2nd Division: Divas (C Jenkins 27), Strikers (T Mills, M Pratt 23); Witchill Widows (S Murray 35), Roller Coasters (R Stillman 35); After Eights (C Hayes 33), Vixens (D Marks, H Jones, M Marks 31); SV Lights (B Kenefick 26), Bobby's Girls (S Seldon 30); Weebies (S Edwards 37), Castle Bandits (P Thomas 32); Breakaways (Vicky Martin 33), Clickies (A Batt 36).

3rd Division: Westenders (G Somers 28), Rhoose Ravers (J Bishop 28); Airways Angels (E Lewis, E Jones 24), Jolly Dollies (C Jones, C Thomas 26); Hill Billies (D Stewart 32), Rugby Triers (J Xvereb 34); Dolly Mixtures (E Bryan 28), SU Lds (K Lacny 22); Persuaders (K Kemp 25), Lil's Devils (S Harrhy 24); Friends & Neighbours (F Brown 29), Etcetera (C Mackintosh 28); Merry Makers (G Hawker 23), Witchill Wanderers (H Scott 26).

4th Division: Rebels (S Williams 26), Twilights (C Brown 29); Fallen Angels (C Stephen 33), Wyndham Witcams (V Walters 30).

5th Division: Hell Raisers (A Bennett 23), Barry Ravers (N Grant, L Smit 24); Liberals (C Chatwell 29), Smurfs (KT Williams 24); Socialites (A Hicks 28), Park Belles (S Davies 26).

MMG's Cup progress

MMG welcomed Canton Rangers to Severn Avenue for the first round of the South Wales Intermediate Cup.

Without knowing too much about the opposition, MMG knew that if they went out and played their own game then they would stand a good chance of progressing in this cup competition. A confident and assured start set the tone for the game.

Canton offered some resistance but MMG quickly took control of the game. An early contentious penalty shouted for MMG was waved away after Anthony Connell was clumsily bundled over in the box.

Justice was served only a few minutes later when Rhys Jenkins guided a well placed shot in to the top corner. The rest of the half was played out comfortably with the well organised defence and hardworking midfielders not allowing Canton to get a foothold in the game.

The second half started well and MMG soon got back into their rhythm. A change in midfield meant an introduction for Elliot Cayton, who quickly settled in.

A second goal was added midway through the second half; great build up play and a precise cross to the back post from Rhys Jenkins was finished by Anthony Connell, who headed the ball past the despairing goalkeeper.

Lee Galsworthy replaced the solid and hardworking Paul Eveleigh, and although Canton applied pressure in the last 10 minutes, MMG never looked like conceding, the final score 2-0.

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Win sees Barry make progress in Swalec Bowl

Barry RFC made progress in the Swalec Bowl on Saturday with a 28-8 victory over Penycraig, and Howard Poole was on hand to capture the team in action - turn to back page for the match report.

Coffee morning fun for golfers

ON September 25, a coffee morning was held at St Athan Golf Club.

As well as the St Athan ladies, over 60 ladies from other clubs in the Vale, Cardiff and Bridgend areas arrived to play a nine hole Stapleford competition. The conditions were superb with the course looking at its best thanks to our excellent green keepers.

After playing, the ladies returned to the clubhouse for refreshments and to peruse the stalls selling jewellery, golf clothes, cakes etc.

When all the ladies had finished their rounds, the results were announced by the ladies captain Jenny Young. The hard fought competition was in two sections; the first, for the visitors, was won by Diana Darcy from St Mary's Golf Club, with Audrey Harwood from Dinas Powys as runner up and Phyllis Parsons also from St Mary's in third place.

In the members' competition, Dilwen Phillips was the very popular winner, with Celia Grey-Scott delighting everyone by coming second after a long spell of ill health and in third place was Janet Davies continuing her winning streak. The prizewinners all triumphantly carried away beautiful garden lanterns.

The competition season is now nearly over, the high spot of which was the club championship which saw Michelle Bligh beating Liz Thomas in a see-saw of a match with Liz fighting until the end before being narrowly defeated by Michelle.

The Millenium Plate was won by Janet Davies over Gaynor Williams; after a hard fought contest, Gaynor, one of our up-and-coming players, was beaten on the 18th by Janet's long experience.

If any ladies are thinking of taking up golf next season, do come and talk to us at St Athan.

RMJ

Men's outdoor bowling season comes to a close

COWBRIDGE men's outdoor bowling season finally came to a close when we held our captain's day.

32 bowlers played 18 ends in a match between captain Norman Wilkinson's team and vice-captain Steve Dicken's team. The result was a win on all four rinks for the vice-captain by 71 shots to 45.

The rink with Clive Pritchard, John Collin, Brian Kent and skip Alan Wallace, beat Tony Lewis, Bryan Hole, Guy Morton and skip John Jones by 21-9.

Skip Dennis Snelling's rink with Terry Dunsworth, Danny Powell and Rob Lewis, beat Bill Harris, Mick Davey, David Thomas and skip Mike Bradley by 19-10.

Mansel Davey, Len Taylor/Eric Sewell, Byron Richards and skip John Trott, beat John Hunt, Phil Woosman, Colin Wilson and skip Roger Barwick by 17-14.

The rink with Charles Sanders, Terry Williams, Ron Frayling and skip Steve Dickens, beat Gerry Lloyd, Ron Woolford, Mansel Thomas and skip Norman Wilkinson by a close 14-12.

The match was followed by a super tea of sandwiches and hot crumbles, pies and cream, which were provided by four of our much appreciated ladies. Captain Norman wishes to thank all who helped make the day a big success.

NJW

Bridge results

SULLY bridge club results:

Monday, September 22, North/South - 1st Ev Kerslake/Sam Fellows 59.27, 2nd Shirley Powell/Janet Cunnington 55.94, 3rd Gareth Stone/Brian Gardner 53.67.

East/West - 1st Sean MacDougall/Italo Basiletti 63.83, 2nd Peter Blackwell/Hazell Hession 53.98, 3rd Pat Verdon/Pam Sherman 53.4.

Wednesday, September 24, North/South - 1st Bunty Wiseman/Anne Johns 64.12, 2nd Peter Millar/Trish Tracy 59.26, 3rd Margaret Evans/Debbie Dawkins 52.78.

East/West - 1st Carol James/Alan James 66.90, 2nd Anne Mac Dougall/Anne Hilary Jones 59.95, 3rd Maureen McCarthy/Phyllis Milner 54.86.

Saturday, September 27, North/South - 1st Kay Dyer/Reg Dyer 62.50, 2nd Shirley Powell/Pat Verdon 51.67, 3rd Joan Thompson/Sheila Kavanagh 47.50.

East/West - 1st Una Gavin/Pam Sherman 58.33, 2nd Brian Knight/Sue Knight 48.33, 3rd Richard Allely/Norman Ryley 47.50.

EK

Barry Athletic squeeze through in nailbiter!

SATURDAY saw Barry Athletic's senior side take part in the first round of the South Wales Intermediate cup where they were drawn away to AFC Perthcelyn from the Aberdare Valley Premier League.

With the Athletic finally being able to field a fully fit side for the first time this season, manager David Govier was hopeful his sides fortunes would turn around and gain a much needed morale boosting victory.

The Athletic started well with Lee Stradling, making his first start of the season, partnered up top with captain Meirion Evans, causing the home defence all kinds of problems.

The team looked confident all over the park with passing flowing football the order of the day and it was a delight to see given the problems over the first month of the season with so many players missing.

The breakthrough came on 20 minutes with Sean Parrish getting on the end of a good move and slotting the ball low into the corner of the net to put the away side one up.

This seemed to fire up the home side who were not in the mood to be beaten on home turf and they had a couple of decent efforts fly just over the bar.

They did get themselves back into the game on 35 minutes though when a free kick was poorly defended by the Athletic, resulting in keeper Huw Davies giving away what seemed to be a soft penalty with his eyes firmly locked on the ball. The two sides went in at halftime at 1-1.

The rally call at halftime was for much of the same in the second half, plenty of passing football which would undoubtedly continue to cause the home side problems.

It was backs to the wall stuff for the first 15 minutes though with the home side showing their intent on winning the game with some heavy pressure but rarely troubled Davies in goal and were kept to shots from distance by the Athletic back line.

As the half went on the away side got a grip of the game though and found themselves 2-1 up when Stradling was played in and calmly slotted the ball past the keeper.

The home side hit back almost straight away; when the ball was cleared out wide, the full back played a delightful ball back into the box to his striker in acres of room who made no mistake from 12 yards out - game on with 15 minutes to go!

With the game now end to end with both sides pushing for the win it fell to an unlikely hero with Lee Reid getting on the end of a free kick and bundling the ball into the bottom corner.

The home side, in their frustration, were reduced to 10 men which helped the Athletic see out the final five minutes of the game and pick a priceless morale boosting victory.

Thanks go to AFC Perthcelyn and The Mountain Ash Inn for their hospitality after the game and to the supporters who made the long journey up the A470.

Round two sees the Athletic welcome Llangeinor FC to Barry Island on Saturday, October 18; kick-off is at 2pm and, as always, the clubhouse will be open after the game to welcome friends of the club both old and new.

Barry Athletic: Huw Davies, Lee Reid, David Govier, Ben Jones, Mike Powell, Ady Gratton, Chris Cannon, Craig Rattenbury, Lee Marshall, Sean Parrish, Billy Gratton, Ben Stephenson, Michael Murphy, Meirion Evans (c), Lee Stradling.

AG

COWBRIDGE DARTS LEAGUE

ON Tuesday, September 23, the Edmondes Arms and the Hare and Hounds hosted the first rounds of the Fours, a four-player team knock-out competition.

At the Edmondes Arms the two victorious teams were the Edmondes 'A' (Steve Simmonite, Cedric Simmonite, Lee Harding, Trevor Morgan) and the Hare & Hounds (Simon Reader, John Izzard, Rob McCaver, Alun Evans, Jon Williams).

Meanwhile at the Hare and Hounds the two victorious teams were the Edmondes 'C' (Noyle Burt, Steve Huish, John Davies, David Thomas, Mark Dowling) and the Edmondes 'B' (Martin Thomas, Dai Thomas, Jonathan Cheal, Frank Butler, Paul Butcher). These teams will now meet in the semi-finals to be played at the Farmers Arms on October 14.

Present league standings remain unchanged, after two matches, are: Llanharry (15 points), Edmondes B (13), Highwayman Inn (10), Edmondes C (9), Farmer's Arms (7) Hare and Hounds and Edmondes A (6) and Old Post Ladies (4).

Next week, Tuesday October 7, there is a full programme of league matches. The Edmondes B hosts the Highwayman Inn, the Hare and Hounds hosts the Old Post Ladies, the Farmer's Arms hosts the Edmondes A and Llanharry hosts the Edmondes C.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are welcome. For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

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Threadbare Barry second team put up a good fight

A threadbare Barry Second XV travelled to Clwb Rygbi more in hope than expectation in their first away fixture.

With 18 first team players injured and unavailable, coach Rhidian Scott and manager Ken Chow were forced to make 11 changes to the starting XV last weekend, bringing in Avaient, Bailey, Ring, Barclay and Harris from the 3rd XV, while Dix, Hewitson, Pugh, Turnbull and Rolfe made their first appearances this season. Manager Ken Chow was forced to fill a spot on the replacements bench.

The match started in a predictable manner as Clwb Rygbi laid siege to the Barry line. The away side had precious little preparation time with a scratch side, and in the early proceedings were no match to the well-drilled CRCC.

After the home side had opened the scoring with a well struck penalty, they turned the screw in the tight, forcing the Barry forwards to retreat, which enabled them to score two unconverted tries in the corner.

Barry lacked the experience to unlock a disciplined defence and were falling foul of the referee's whistle, which was frustrating for both sides.

The away side finally forced the issue by releasing the centre partnership and their destructive running drew a penalty opportunity, in which Joe McCann gladly accepted with his boot to reduce the deficit to 13-3.

With the scrums a mess and line-outs a lottery, Barry were to concede again just before halftime when Clwb Rygbi took advantage of their scrummaging power once more for another unconverted score.

Scott sent on James Sullivan to tidy up the set pieces and this proved to be a masterstroke, as after the interval Barry had the upper hand in this area.

This gave a platform for Pugh and McCann to release the backs and wing Michael Avaient looked to have grounded the ball beyond the line for his first try of the season, only to have the official wrongly rule it out.

Barry pressure finally told, however, as following several good forward pick-and-drives, scrum-half Gerwyn Pugh dived over under the posts to score. McCann added the conversion.

It was now the home side's turn to feel the pressure, as a combination of devastating running by Dix and Hewitson in midfield, combined with a clear dominance in the scrum, saw Barry camped deep in their opposition's 22.

By drawing in the CRCC defenders, McCann was able to send the ball out wide to Dix, who dived over to score a superb team try. McCann added the extras from out wide and the deficit was only now one point.

The home side came back with a try of their own after capitalising on a turnover, and with the conversion brought the gap back to eight points, seemingly making sure of the game.

Barry rallied, despite a collective fatigue and lack of experience, and were gifted a try when confusion in the Clwb Rygbi defence saw Dix diving on the loose ball to score his second. McCann stroked over the extras.

With only four minutes left it seemed the game was still in the balance and that the away side would at least be rewarded with a losing bonus point, but alas it was not to be as the home side had the last say, scoring the last try in an exciting game to leave the final score 32-24.

The management would like to commend the effort and attitude shown by the players on the pitch on the day, and would hope to have some of the more experienced senior players back in the fold next weekend.

Barry 2nd XV host Glamorgan Wanderers this weekend, while the 3rd XV are at home to Dinas Powys.

Team: D Evans; Avaient, Dix, Hewitson, Bailey; McCann, Pugh; Heard, Turnbull, Ring; Barclay, Harris; Rolfe ©, Dutton, J Evans. Replacements: Sullivan, van Birgelen, not used: Chow. Man of the match: McCann.

KC

Cottrell Park Seniors' Golf Society hold event

Back row, left to right: John Clarke, Eugene Murphy, Steve Cross, Ben Davies.
Front Row: Brian Pritchard, Richard Daniels, David Stephenson, Graham Kellett, Iain Ross.

THE inaugural past captain's day was held at Whitchurch Golf Club on Friday, September 12.

Eight past captains together with the current captain competed for the Past Captain's trophy, which was won by Iain Ross with 37 stableford points.

RD

WOLVES PROGRESS

DINAS Wolves edged this game with Sully Red 5-3, and moved into the next round of the cup in a thrilling match at Bryn y don.

Taking no time to settle B Harewood opened the scoring in the first few minutes, as he drifted into the box unmarked.

Sully responded very quickly when confusion allowed the Sully forward time to dance through to draw level.

The home side really struggled to get their passing game together and young Greg in goals for Sully was having an inspired game.

Sully then took the lead before a great strike from Booker left the score 2-2 at the break.

The second half showed the value of substitutes, as the visitors, after again taking the lead, tired as they only had the bare 11.

Eventually the home side were finding their team mates with passes and movement and further goals from Pereira, and Harewood, completing his hat trick, saw Dinas through to the next round.

Man of the match Z Fifield showed a cool head under pressure, and well done both teams on a typical cup match. **LS**

FAMOUS RIDERS FROM THE VALE
John Cook

IN 1971, Barry-born John Cook became the first Welshman to win the Grand National since Mervyn Jones had been successful on *Bogskar* 31 years earlier.

Riding the 28-1 chance *Specify*, owned by Fred Pontin, the 24-year-old former sailor who was in fifth place jumping the last fence behind *Sandy Sprite*, *Bowgeeno*, *Black Secret* and *Astbury*, conjured up a late dash on the long run-in to pip *Black Secret* by a neck.

In winning this exciting race, he displayed one of the coolest examples of horsemanship ever seen at Aintree. He was aged 33 and was having only his third ride in the race.

The previous year he had been going really well in the race on *Specify* only to be brought down by *The Otter* who fell directly in his path when jumping Beecher's the second time around.

John's parents used to do the catering for the apprentices at Kingsclere and that is where he served his own apprenticeship with Welsh trainer Evan Williams, who also hailed from the Vale.

However, his race riding career really took off in 1962 when he put an advertisement in the now sadly long defunct The Sporting Life requesting rides. As a result of the advertisement, he got a job with Frank Cundell at Aston Tirrold. John chalked-up the first of his 297 winners on *Samoan Sun* at Stratford the following year.

During his race riding career, he was associated with that good steeplechaser *Spanish Steps* on whom he won the 1969 Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup, the 1968 Black and White Whisky Gold Cup and half-a-dozen or so other big races.

Of *Spanish Steps* he said: "He had enough guts for ten horses." Sadly, a fractured leg owing to a race riding accident proved so bad that he had to hang-up his riding boots. He later emigrated with his family to Australia and it was there that he died in 1999 after a brave battle against illness.

He was just 62 but one thing is certain is that in his short life he had made his mark in the world of steeplechasing.

Adapted from Brian Lee's Welsh Steeplechase Jockeys, published by Cwmnedd Press in 1993.

BRIAN LEE

We welcome your sports reports, news and items of interest - email: *gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk*

Aberdare Cup test awaits Barry Town

Two south Wales teams who enjoyed success in recent Welsh Cup seasons will meet this weekend in the first round of the 2014-15 tournament.

Manager Gavin Chesterfield takes his Barry side to Aberdare on Saturday, in a meeting of the Welsh League's last representatives standing from the previous two seasons.

In 2012-13, Barry defeated Caerleon, Penrhyncoch, Ely Rangers, Pontardawe and Flint to earn a semi-final at neutral Newtown against eventual winners Prestatyn.

Last season, Aberdare caused a stir by knocking out the holders, as well as Treowen, Briton Ferry and Bodedern, en route to a quarter-final loss to Welsh Premier League outfit Bala.

However, fate has decreed that only one can advance to the second round this year, with Saturday's tie to be settled on the day, by way of extra-time and penalties if necessary.

Aberdare will have a number of familiar faces in their midst on Saturday, including manager Lee Phillips, who lifted a number of trophies during his time at Jenner Park and made almost 100 appearances in Barry colours.

Chesterfield meanwhile should have a full squad available to choose from, with the exception of long-term injury casualty Michael Hartley.

Kick-off at Aberaman Park on Saturday is at 2pm, with a full club fundraiser at the Wyndham Cons following from 7pm.

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Cowbridge's walkover win puts them into second round of Bowl

COWBRIDGE progressed to the second round of the SWALEC Bowl last Saturday with a walkover against Wick, who were unfortunately unable to raise a side.

Meanwhile, the youth travelled to Penarth for a hard fought victory against last season's BC league winners, coming away with a 10-14 victory.

Penarth opened the scoring with a penalty and just before halftime inside centre James Bennett scored a Jamie Roberts-like try which Alex Guard converted. The halftime score was 3-7.

A superb steal in the lineout followed by a charge at their outside half by Lloyd Elms and an offload to Connor Wyatt saw a score under the posts which Guard converted.

Cowbridge continued to apply pressure without adding to their score and in the last few minutes Penarth broke away to score and bring the final score of 10-14.

A hard fought victory, which the boys deserved, sets them up for St Joseph's at home in a combined league and cup match at home on October 11.

The firsts travel to Old Penarthians this Saturday. Old Pens, like Cowbridge, are yet to win a league game this season so this is going to be a nailbiter and all supporters are urged to come along and cheer on the boys.

The following Saturday we welcome Dinas Powys to the Athletic Field and on October 18, we travel to Caerau Ely.

RK/RV

RUTHLESS VIFC OFFER UP GR-EIGHT PERFORMANCE!

THE VI's punished the only side to take points off them this season by firing eight goals past Cadoxton Barry FC.

The league leaders provided a ruthless first half display to dispatch a Cadoxton side who took two points from Bill Laing's side in the reverse fixture just two weeks prior.

Despite remaining undefeated and at the summit of the division, dropping points hit the VI's hard with a lacklustre performance in the away tie and a quick chance for revenge was a welcome bonus.

Aaron Rogers doubled his tally for the season with an impressive 1st half hat-trick while Mortimore continued to be lethal up front with another VI double. Jamie Robinson set it all in motion however, opening the scoring with a fine placed shot after receiving Goodwin's through ball.

Cadoxton's only consolation was a fine free-kick by their No7 before the break. The only negative in this outstanding opening gambit from the VI's is leaking the odd avoidable goal that tarnishes their defensive record.

With the game won within 45 minutes, the VI's seemed to come out of the break with a mindset to just see the game out. Despite rarely coming out of second gear, the home side still managed to produce two more goals. Last season's player of the year Reece Lewis netted his first goal of the campaign before summer signing Karl Walsh finished off the rout from close range.

Not many would have predicted such a scoreline after Cadoxton more than held their own in the reverse fixture. Currently sitting in sixth place, CBFC would have counted themselves unlucky not to have beaten the VI's just two weeks ago.

The VI's have now scored 13 goals in two games, form that mimics last season's efforts but in a league with much stronger opposition.

The high scoring wins will boost the teams confidence heading into tougher fixtures in the coming weeks against the likes of Dinas Powys, Rhoose and Wenvoe.

One noticeable difference to the side that dropped points a fortnight ago was the strength of the squad that turned up this past Saturday.

Both the manager and his assistant, Dark, were spoiled with a plethora of talent both on the field and on the bench, with only a few names missing through injury or work commitments.

Man of the match goes to Aaron Rogers who's clinical finishing and work rate helped relieve any doubts that the VI's would slip up against Cadoxoton again. Rogers is now the VI's second highest scorer with six goals in his eight appearances for the side.

RC

Junior rugby round-up

COWBRIDGE under-14s got their season back on track with a good away victory at St Peters.

The teams only played each other a couple of weeks ago, but with a number of St Peters players returning from injury, and Cowbridge having picked up a number of injuries, Cowbridge were expecting a tougher encounter than the one they had at home.

Cowbridge opened the scoring when Dan O'Sullivan playing at inside centre, made a great dummy and showed his pace to out strip the covering defence.

The St Peters full back did not give up and managed to tackle O'Sullivan, but O'Sullivan still managed to score the game's opening try, which Ioan Williams converted.

St Peters responded straight away with a great solo try by their impressive outside centre. St Peters stole a Cowbridge line out just inside their own 22, with a couple of passes, the outside centre found himself in space.

Two missed tackles later, and the centre was under the post untouched. This try seemed to give St. Peters confidence and they camped themselves inside the Cowbridge 22 for some time. Only great defence by the Cowbridge pack kept St Peters from crossing the line.

After continued pressure St Peters got the ball to their outside centre who broke through a couple of weak Cowbridge tackles to score his, and St Peters second try of the game. St Peters 12, Cowbridge 7.

With the halftime whistle approaching, Harry Bluc, the Cowbridge tight head prop, went on a powerful run, breaking through a number of St Peters forwards and setting up good quick ball for the Cowbridge backs.

Evan Thomas, the Cowbridge outside half passed the ball to his right, where Rueben Williams the Cowbridge number 8 was lurking at inside centre. With a great change of pace, R.Williams made a break for the corner, and scored out wide before the St Peters defence could cover the ground.

Following some stern words from the coaching team, Cowbridge produced a great second half, running in six unopposed tries.

Straight from the kick off, Cowbridge produced the best phase of rugby of the match. The forwards produced some hard runs into the heart of the St Peters defence where Ben Jones, Rueben Williams and Jack Little all made good ground.

Ioan Williams then set his backs moving, first from right to left, then back across the pitch. With the St Peters defence stretched, and the phases of play making it into double figures, Dan O'Sullivan gathered the ball to score under the post for his second try of the game. I.Williams converted, to make it St Peters 12, Cowbridge 19.

St Peters came back straight at Cowbridge, but unlike the first half Cowbridge managed to keep them from scoring. All the forwards started to tackle, and a great turnover by Iestyn Fenn, allowed the Cowbridge backs to counter attack from just inside their own 22.

Barney Langton-Cryer made a superb break to take the ball up to the St Peters ten metre line. Ioan Williams made a sniping run down the blind slide and set up some quick ball. A simple pass to O'Sullivan allowed him to sneak down the same blind side to score his third try of the game.

Cowbridge now had their confidence back and were pressurising all the St Peters possession. Cowbridge's fifth try came from a St Peters defensive line out.

The Cowbridge back row pressurised the St Peters' half-backs into trying to make some impossible passes. It was great anticipation from Iestyn Fenn to intercept one of these passes to score un-touched under the posts, which I Williams converted.

With St Peters losing some confidence Cowbridge began to run the ball from everywhere and finished the game with three quick tries in succession.

First Ben Jones, the Cowbridge open side flanker scored following a break away run by Rowan Allin. Jones had positioned himself as first receiver and took a great pop pass from Ioan Williams to burst through the tiring St Peters defence to score under the posts.

The game's penultimate try came from Jack Dixon, who like Jones had found himself as first receiver following a hard run, this time by Jack Little. Dixon side stepped the St Peters defensive line and showed good pace to score in the corner.

The game finished with a well-deserved break away try for Rowan Allin. Allin had been on hand throughout the game, and produced some great runs without crossing the try line.

However, on the last move of the game Allin side stepped a couple of St Peters defenders and out paced the covering St Peters back row, the final score 52-12.

After the disappointment of last week's defeat this was a great second half performance, and showed what the boys can do if they play as a team and have the right mind set from the start of the game.

GJ

Cowbridge under-12s fielded several new recruits against St Peters.

Cowbridge's team structure and quality of play improved throughout the game as new club members Lucas Reid, Rhys Williams, Harvey Breed, Rhys Davies and Max Hall worked hard with their new team mates to overcome a tough opposition.

St Peters stole an early try after Cowbridge lost possession on the ground during the phases of an attacking move, resulting in a moment of brief confusion amongst the reforming Cowbridge defensive line.

St Peters were quick to capitalise and broke through the gap to cross the line for a try, followed by a successful conversion.

However, Cowbridge immediately pulled themselves together. Heroic forward performances by all members of the pack resulted in driving possession on countless occasions, feeding back effortlessly though scrum half Elisedd Greenwood and fly half Harry Whittaker, both of whom gave outstanding performances.

A full team effort using all hands to target the overlap resulted in a try for James Davies, converted by Harry Whittaker. A Whittaker penalty from just inside the 22 metre line took the home side into the lead just before the halftime whistle.

The second half saw St Peters fight back for a much more even game, with possession and territory evenly split between the two sides. Some magical touches from the Cowbridge backs won successive territory gains but the visitors fought back hard.

However, a Cowbridge set scrum in the St Peters half led to Harry Whittaker cutting pack into an open gap to cross the line for Cowbridge's second try. Final score Cowbridge 15, St Peters 7.

In addition to those mentioned above, the squad line up for the day included Gruff Ford, Jake Williams, Lloyd Bennett, Tom O Connor, Ellis Howell, Harri Howkins, David Harris, Matthew Gilvear, Jack Reilly, James Gilvear, Charlie Locke, Rhys Williams, Joe Marshman, Iwan-Thomas Bartle, Sam Coates.

WL

St Peters were the visitors for Cowbridge under-9s, who continued their fine start to the season.

Game 1 started positively for the home side with Osian Bruce carving his way through the defence and scoring in the corner. The second try once again came from Osian bolting down the left wing, bouncing off tackles, and finishing off with a dive over the line.

Henry Whitehouse broke through early in the second half setting up a chance for Harry New who finished with aplomb. St Peters finally scored their first try of the day, but Cowbridge were in confident mood.

Joe Arentsen sidestepped brilliantly through the onrushing defence, with Harry New once again taking advantage of good field position with a clinical finish. Final score 4-1 Cowbridge.

James Collingridge set the tone in game 2 with a characteristic break through the middle, setting up Joe Arentsen for his second of the day, with some clever footwork.

A try by St Peters was then countered by a great solo effort from Harry New who the St Peters defence were finding hard to handle. The first half, however, ended honours even with St Peters scoring after a concerted spell of pressure.

A strong run and smart offload by Tom Doble created the space for Osian to score his hat trick for the day, with Ollie Gale also forcing his way over from close range.

St Peters stayed in the game with tries of their own, but Cowbridge were not to be deterred when Charlie Berkley Smith finished off a fine flowing Cowbridge move.

The last word was saved for Osian with a trademark jet propelled sprint over the try line. Final score 6-4 to Cowbridge.

PS